ADC Rally Day
by Des Rafferty, principal, Adventist Discovery Centre

Sabbath 29 September is Adventist Discovery Centre Rally Day. This year we have taken a number of steps to give the ADC a wider impact.

RDP Advertising
Back in April we reported the launch of our advertising campaign using Response Direct Publishing to promote the course simply titled Health. Over the last four months we have received more than 5000 responses to the health ad. It was placed in RDP’s response magazine, which has a potential audience of 6.2 million people, and we were also advertised on their website. Where did the majority of the responses come from? Unsurprisingly, from the same place where up to 60% of all UK adults can be found . . . the Internet.

One million ‘Take Jesus’ Cards
We are excited by the prospect of another million ‘Take Jesus’ cards hitting the streets in the United Kingdom. These cards have been made available free to the ADC and subsequently to every church member through the generosity of granoVita UK Ltd.

This presents us all with a wonderful opportunity to share the Gospel with friends, neighbours and work colleagues. The cards can be used as part of your personal outreach or they can supplement your church’s evangelistic activities.

Orders can be placed by writing to the ADC office in Watford
(Adventist Discovery Centre, Stanborough Park, Watford, Herts, WD25 9JU) or emailing adc@adventist.org.uk. You can also order from our website www.discoveronline.org.uk. Either way, your order will be shipped by Stanborough Press FREE of charge.

Collection box
By now your church will have received a new ADC collection box. Please place this box at the front of the church, not at the entry or exit doors. (It would be good for some local arrangement to be made for the care and supervision of the new collection box.) ADC Rally Day presents a wonderful opportunity for the new box to be introduced to the church into which members can place their donations.

New Lessons
We are currently working through the upgrades to our existing lessons. We also have four new courses in the pipeline: What We Believe – for kids What We Believe – for adults Understanding Judaism Understanding Islam

The Understanding Judaism/Islam courses in no way constitute an introduction to either faith. What we seek to achieve in offering these is a balanced understanding of both faiths and in so doing provide the student with factual knowledge on the similarities, differences, myths and erroneous teachings. Other lessons will follow in due course. The work in the ADC office is extensive, varied and thoroughly enjoyable.

While each member of staff works extremely hard, the reward of our labours is the knowledge that each student matters to heaven.
Psychosomatic Medicine
Holmes and Rahe (1967) ‘The social readjustment rating

Kebar Canal, in his thirtieth year, Ezekiel was called to be God’s ‘watchman’ for his exiled people. Back in Zedekiah’s Jerusalem, Jeremiah still thundered. Among the exiles in Babylon, Ezekiel spoke for God. ‘God’s demoralised exiles, Ezekiel then preached the ultimate return of God’s glory to the city and to its temple. Nevertheless, to say the ‘restoration’ chapters (40-48) are the most thrilling of all. It is chapter 47 that contains the heart-lifting picture of the wonderful River of God. The worship of God has been restored in the temple. The glory of Yahweh has returned to his people. But that glory was not confined to the temple or its precincts.

The man with the measuring line’ who conducts Ezekiel through his vision brings him to the eastern door of the temple. ‘Flowing east, a trickle of water emerges from the temple’s threshold. But, after Ezekiel has followed the water course for 500 metres, he is ankle-deep.

Ezekiel’s guide strides purposefully on in an easterly direction. The River’s source erupting as a fountain in a Jerusalem of the future to cleanse men from sin and uncleanness. Like Isaiah, he saw God’s servant ‘pierced’. Like Ezekiel, he saw the River flow from Jerusalem – but in both directions, west and east.

Try thinking water. But perhaps you’re thinking, ‘wheels within wheels’. Think of Ezekiel and you think of bones or, perhaps, ‘wheels within wheels’.

What is Ezekiel’s agent of this new creation? Since the reign of King Ahaz, a century earlier, Judah had been a vassal state of the Assyrian Empire. Josiah’s reforms were symptomatic of the weakening of Assyria and the increasing assertiveness of New Babylon. Josiah’s temple took place under the reforming influence of Josiah’s regime. But there was a problem. Josiah could remove idolatry from Judah’s high places, but he could not remove idolatry from the hearts of Judah’s people. Jeremiah was on hand with a challenge. Unless there was a radical change from within Jerusalem and its temple would disappear as completely as Shiloh, had centuries earlier.

But, it is rare that the people of the new creation look back at their existence and feel that there has been anything wrong. The 19th century writer, John Henry Newman, said of the difference between ordinary and religious existence that ‘there is no necessity for a complete and perfect present, for the first is not so much a present as a transition, the second a state of man’s existence here and hereafter.’

Think of Ezekiel and you think of bones or, perhaps, ‘wheels within wheels’. Try thinking water.

But perhaps you’re thinking, ‘Could Ezekiel have been an extremist? OK. Let’s spool back a bit. Ezekiel was born into a priestly family in Jerusalem in the year in which the Book of the Law was discovered and King Josiah increased the impiety of his reforms in Judah.

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Ireland mourns for Melusi
by Stephen Wilson

Monday lunchtime, 5 August. saw the traffic in Athlone town come to a standstill as over 500 mourners marched behind the coffin of 12-year-old Melusi Tanaka Maika. Hymns were sung in English and Ndebele as the funeral procession proceeded to the Telford church. The funeral took place after a special service was held. Melusi was one of a group of young people from Galway church who had travelled to Belfast for the Irish Mission Summer Camp in Lome House, Bangor. He had been given the choice of attending a football camp or the Adventist church camp, and had chosen the latter without hesitation. This was the first camp he had attended, and he could not wait to be there. During the camp Melusi quickly made friends with everyone and became one of the most popular boys on site.

On Thursday evening, just after supper, he was playing rugby with some friends before visiting his old school. He had not had time to see his family before his death. Melusi had completed his first year at school, and was looking forward to the next year with enthusiasm. He was planning to study architecture and later become an engineer. His family and friends were devastated by his sudden death. They remembered him as a kind and thoughtful boy who always put others before himself. Melusi was a member of the youth group at his church, and was known for his leadership skills and his ability to inspire others. He was also known for his love of music, and was a member of the church choir. He had been looking forward to the annual golf day, which was due to take place on Saturday.

The Zimbabwean community from around Ireland gathered close to support Christine and her friends. During the funeral service the choir of the church sang ‘Falling in Love’, one of the Galway church Pathfinder leaders, shared some moments from Melusi’s last days. At camp Melusi had made a t-shirt that said ‘I am the best’. He was a true hero, and known by all and well-loved. The number of adults and young people who turned out to see farwell was astonishing. But his mother will miss him most. Melusi was her hero, as he had supported her through so many difficult times.

Irish Missions president, Pastor David Neil, said in his homily, to minister to the many groups in the congregation. First, to Christine (who, thank God, has strong faith), then to those with little faith and those with no faith. Recognising that even those with strong faith are asking the question, ‘What, dear God, is going on here?’ he used Romans 8:28-39 as the source of the message, emphasising that human words at this point can seem empty and hollow yet, while we may not completely understand Paul’s words in Romans 8, we can consider them in faith to be trustworthily and true. ‘God works for the good of those who love him’, ‘If God is for us, who can be against us?’, ‘Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?’ he encouraged the children and teens present to talk with God in prayer about the fears of what they witnessed at camp and the pain of loss.

Christine’s faith has been a witness to all present. She knows that her son passed away in the ‘best’ place. And she knows she will see her son one day soon. Melusi’s body was laid to rest in Mount Temple cemetery. Local pastors, Steve Wilson and the whole church family are witness to Christine’s faith and ask that you remember Christine and Melusi’s family and friends in your prayers.

Chiswick Gospel Choir at major community event
The annual Bedford Park Festival in Chiswick was graced this year by the presence of the Chiswick Gospel Choir. The festival is an annual week-long fundraising event that serves the community with various activities. The festival has taken place every June since its launch in 1967 and has grown in popularity to become the largest community event in Chiswick, attracting thousands of people. On 9 July 2007, however, the stage which usually hosts the resident jazz band was occupied by the Chiswick Gospel Choir. The weather was good and the choir held their large audience captive for over 45 minutes, singing its unique blend of Gospel songs and audience participation choruses. The organisers and many festival-goers commented on the quality of the music and how impressed they were with the messages in the songs that were presented. The choir’s benefits from this year’s festival will be UNICEF’s ‘United for Children Against AIDS’ campaign and the Upper Room, Feeding the Community in Need in West London.

Cariad project in Wales
by Ed Sammons
Cariad is a formal expression in Welsh for love. It became not just an expression but a reality for Welsh Mission youth who, joining a team of youth from Minnesota, USA, shared God’s love with the different communities in Swansea from 23 to 30 July 2007.

In a joint project, the youth gathered at a campsite near Oxwich Bay, leaving every morning to host a holiday Bible club called Avalanche Ranch in two separate locations. The young people then spent the afternoons involved in various service projects, including painting and gardening at The Old People’s Information Centre. Later, picking in a nearby community, helping children and teens in a community art project, and finally handing out balloons, face painting, hair-briding and handing out literature and toys to children in Swansea city centre. The Welsh group were also proud to take their American visitors to several historical locations in Wales. For the Americans, it was an exciting experience to visit their first castle and Roman amphitheatre, and have workshops on the steps of the Senydd (Welsh Parliament) on Cardiff Bay.

In spite of a week of camping in the heavy rain and long days, the youth worked together tremendously right from the start. Local church members showed their support by serving the group with meals and assisting where possible. The week concluded with a sightseeing trip to London where, sadly, the group said their tearful goodbyes.

God blessed our experience together. Community children learned about Jesus, new friendships were formed, and commitments of service were renewed.

Friends support Shakira
Shakira (pictured centre) was baptised at Chiswick church on 23 June and the special day was attended by church members, friends and family. Testimonials were shared concerning the positive influence Shakira had in the sharing of her faith with her college friends and how eager she always was to discuss her beliefs with them. As a testament to that, many of her closest friends (some pictured here) were present at her baptism to share the special moment with her. At the request of Shakira, Melbourne-based band ‘Joint Praise’ have been presented by the Chiswick and Cenotaph teen choir ‘Joint Praise’.

Telford church organises Ghanaian Day
by Theophilus Gokah

I nspired by the activities of church groups elsewhere in the United Kingdom, the Telford Adventist church organised a ‘Ghanaian Day of Fellowship’ on Sabbath, 5 August to interact with friends and the community at large. The day brought together church members coming from various parts of the community and dynamism. The theme for the event was a symbol of Ghanaian hospitality ‘Awakada’, meaning welcome. Josephine Appoh, conducting Sabbath School, urged guests ‘to consider their presence a blessing’ and assured the congregation of the ability of God ‘to do all things according to his will’. This year marks the 250th anniversary of the birth of Thomas Telford, after whom the town was named. Telford is one of the fastest growing towns in the Midlands and situated within this dynamic community is the Telford Adventist church. From the Christian perspective, it is God who has brought the town and its people to the present position and thus the church must make him known to the community. The church leadership, Dr Theophilus Gokah reminded the Telford members of their role in propagating the Advent message within their community, a duty that can only be realised through dedication, planning, perseverance and the support of the Holy Spirit.

Riverway fundraising
On Sabbath 24 March the Riverway church hosted a special music concert in aid of ASNA (Adventist Special Needs) and was honoured to have the Irish Mission Adventists as special guest artists. Matthew Lambert of Canterbury church also delighted us with renditions of clas-sic gospel favourites. Visiting pastor Malcolm Taylor gave the welcome and evening prayer, and in his vote of thanks echoed everyone’s view that we had all enjoyed a wonderful musical experience.

Waterford Shop
New opening times effective from Wednesday 29 August.
Monday to Thursday 11am-3:30pm
Friday 10am-3:30pm
1st and 3rd Sunday of each month 10am-2pm
The shop will be closed Sunday 2 September for Open Day.
DAVID SPEARING expressed by the congregation as they worshipped in the new premises. There was a great deal of joy and gratitude in Cowley. This marked a major step forward for the new church group in Oxford. The Portuguese-speaking group had started in the North London Adventist church meeting in the spacious and beautifully-appointed St James Church Centre. The group continued to flourish under the leadership of David Jesus Martins who has just recently been ordained as an elder.

Oxford Portuguese-speaking church finds a home

On 23 July Cambridge church opened their Avalanche Ranch to forty-two young ranchers aged 2-12 for a week-long amazing adventure through God’s Word. Each day the children were given a wild ride through God’s Word. Their daily adventure began with singing and doing actions to upbeat Bible songs and learning verses that introduced them to various concepts about God. Then they visited each of the five ranch stations and engaged in activities that taught them about God. At Chuck Wagon Cove they made tasty treats, Cowboy Crafts and Missions offered delightful creations. They had wild Bible Adventures, enjoyed games at Horse Play Games and met Chadder Chipmunk on video. The adventure at each ranch reinforced the concepts. God is real, God is with us, God is strong, God is awesome and God is in charge. Another exciting and rewarding concept was the brainchild of Area 6A pastors and their co-ordinator, Pastor David Burnett. For more on Impact London visit www.impactlondon.org.

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**Ordination and Gospel Concert in Cardiff**

by John Surridge

On Sabbath 11 August Clyde Moore was ordained to the gospel ministry in the Cardiff Adventist church. Pastor Moore was brought into the Welsh Mission by the then Mission president, Pastor Brian Phillips, just over five years ago and has ministered in the Cardiff and Barry churches since that time, first serving an internship and then taking on full responsibility for the district.

Somewhat unusually, the ordination service took place on a Sabbath morning, replacing the usual divine service. This, however, was appreciated by the nearly 200 people in attendance, some of whom commented that having the programme in the morning helped to underline the spiritual nature of ordination and its importance in the life of the church.

The ordained ministers who took part in the service were Pastors George Asiamah, Geoff Dennis, Michael Lagan, Roger Neat, Brian Phillips, Watson Southcott and John Surridge. In his address current Mission president Pastor John Surridge spoke on 2 Chronicles 7:14 and 'God’s Four Steps to Successful Service’. The text was chosen especially by Pastor Moore who said that it had sustained him through his entire Christian experience.

Pastor Brian Phillips introduced Pastor Moore to the congregation and also offered the ordination prayer. In his response Pastor Moore began by giving thanks to God for the way that he had led him to this particular point in his ministry. He also thanked the members of his family for their influence over the years and particularly thanked his younger sister Dr Christine Saller and her daughter Victoria for flying over from St Louis just for the service. Their journey had been quite traumatic with planes cancelled and luggage lost, but they still managed to present a special musical item – ‘Through It All’ – during the service.

One particularly influential person in Pastor Moore’s life is his wife Anette who currently serves as Children’s Ministries sponsor in the Welsh Mission. Anette accompanied her husband on the platform and, following the official welcome to Pastor Moore, was given a special welcome to the ministry by Mrs Nancy Dennis, her husband’s mother.

The morning service was largely planned by Pastor Moore himself, and additional musical items were provided by the Croydon Seventh-day Adventist Gospel Choir. Ken Burton’s quartet ‘Tessera’, Jenny Grant, and a quartet from the South Wales African Adventist Fellowship.

Following a fellowship lunch, which was in itself a logistical triumph for the ladies of the Cardiff church, there was an afternoon concert featuring the Croydon Seventh-day Adventist Gospel Choir. Renowned for their professionalism, the Croydon Choir endeared themselves to the congregation with their warmth and the way that they genuinely seemed to be enjoying themselves, sharing in Pastor Moore’s special day.

Their version of ‘By the Rivers of Babylon’, no doubt a Ken Burton special arrangement, was particularly appreciated. Other performers included Sharon McKenzie, whose husband Ian will be taking over the Cardiff district when Pastor Moore moves to Shrewsbury and Telford, Wayne and Sarah from Tewkesbury, Jenny Grant, Tony Kotowora-Kuti, Christine and Victoria Saller, and Kim and Pam from Birmingham. Victoria Saller’s ‘Ababaster Box’ was beautifully delivered and very moving, and Kim and Pam, brother and sister, and also only youngsters, held everyone spellbound with ‘Undisputed Champion of Love’ and ‘Shine Your Light’ respectively.

The Croydon Choir concluded the day with a lively and congregation-involving rendition of ‘My Father’s House’. As Ken Burton played the piano, conducted, and taught, all at the same time, the whole audience was transformed into a choir. And with Paul Lee helping out the newly-recruited and struggling tenors, the result was a fairly joyful noise.

Many people helped to make the day a success and special thanks go to Tim Barbor, who hosted the afternoon programme, and Ian Matthews, whose careful nurturing of the public address system ensured that everything that should have been heard was heard.

Pictures from the day can be seen in the gallery section of the Welsh Mission website at www.adventwales.org.

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**60 Saved in ‘Festival City’**

On Sabbath 5 May at 7pm, Clapton Community church was transformed into ‘Festival City’ as the doors opened to welcome residents of the Clapton community to the ‘Better Days are Coming’ campaign. People from different walks of life, young and old, came to hear Pastor Samuel Telemaque, a dynamic evangelist from the Caribbean, present thought-provoking messages directly from the Bible.

Night after night for three weeks, God’s Word was presented in a clear and concise manner in this recently-acquired Grade II listed St Paul’s Church, previously owned by the Church of England. Souls were blessed, and many people made the decision to accept Jesus as their personal Saviour. As a result of their decision, sixty precious souls were baptised by Dr Eben O. Sackey and Dr Richard DeLisser.

Preparation for the campaign started on 15 December 2006 with a late-night prayer walk through Clapton. This was followed by weekly door-to-door visits within the community, along with programmes held in the church where the community was invited to come in and talk with members.

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**Baptismal photo album**

On Sabbath 21 July Tottenham church was packed, not only because it was Men’s Ministries Day, but also because baby Sebastian Thorpe, grandson of Pastor Thorpe, was being dedicated.

The theme for the Sabbath School session was ‘Men We Can Emulate’, and the lives of Enoch, Moses and Paul were discussed. The Sabbath School lesson study followed and all the female Sabbath School teachers got a break, as men conducted the classes.

Time was ‘stolen’ from the men’s programme to present to the nine newly-baptised members a photo album containing pictures taken on the day of their baptism on 26 May. The speaker for the day was John Mathew from the Hackney church and the theme for his sermon was ‘A Few Good Men’. His message was based on Judges 6. Israel was being oppressed by the Midianites and had to hide in caves. How did God’s people get to this state? The simple answer was that they had turned their backs on the Lord and were worshipping the gods of the heathen. The children of Israel cried out to the Lord and he heard their cry. God used Gideon, a man who was weak and doubtful, and 300 men to deliver his people.

The story teaches us that sin does not stand still. It starts with a cigarette and ends in heroin addiction; it starts with a glass of wine and ends in alcoholism. It starts with a ‘innocent’ kiss and ends in an abortion. God is looking for men to be role models who will call sin by its right name. ‘The greatest want of the world is the want of men – men who will not be bought or sold, men who in their inmost souls are true and honest, men who do not fear to call sin by its right name, men whose conscience is as true to duty as the needle to the pole, men who will stand for the right though the heavens fall.’ Education, E. G. White.

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**In an English country garden**

Sunday 15 May marked the third year in succession when members and friends of Winchester church met to enjoy special music in the beautiful country garden at the Nightingale’s home.

'It was a beautifully atmospheric service suffering from cancer at the present time and we raised £330 for Cancer Research UK. To this sum was added a further £500 raised at a similar concert held in the Southampton church earlier in the year as a surprise for David Bradley, one of our friends, who has cancer.

Top: The ordination prayer, left to right: John Mathew, Anette Saller, Pastor Moore, Clyde Moore, Geoff Dennis and lan Matthews, and above and right: scenes from the Clapton Church. Left: Victoria Saller, niece of Pastor Moore. Bottom: Paul Lee.
Marching to Victory!

Sabbath 11 August was a special day for the Adventurers and Pathfinders at Newcastle church as they treated their audience to a rousing programme under the theme ‘Marching to victory’. They started with their various recitals of the aim, motto, pledge, law and promise. Then, a Pathfinder presented the sermon of the day. In spite of his age, 11-year-old Olsie D. Ross preached a big sermon reminding his listeners that everyone is involved in a battle in which believers are soldiers in the army of the Lord. Olsie then challenged the church to check whether Christ or Satan was winning the war in their lives. He passionately urged all to claim the victory which is possible only through Jesus and march on victoriously till Jesus comes again.

The afternoon was filled with a display of the various skills and honours, such as knot tying, which the young people have acquired so far during 207. The crowning act of the programme was to reward the children for their achievements.

Certificates of attendance were issued to sixteen Adventurers and Pathfinders. In addition, another eleven certificates were issued for Pathfinders who successfully completed their achievement classes, ranging from Busy Bee to Ranger. To add icing to the cake, two of the children were delighted to receive top honours for their all-round excellence in areas such as attendance, payments of dues, behaviour at home and church. Chipo Mashiri was named Newcastle church’s Adventurer of the year while Jeff Thulani Nkosi was crowned Pathfinder of the year. Patrick Mashiri was delighted and proud of his 7-year-old daughter who received a top honour. He praised the leadership of the Adventurer and Pathfinder clubs for their hard work. ‘It was a blessing to see our Pathfinders and Adventurers leading in church worship. I was touched by the sermon. We can only give glory to God for the children he gave us, especially as we witness his work through them.’

Amulree’s baptism

Jeff’s father, Maxwell, was also impressed with the programmes of the day, adding: ‘It was very exciting to learn that one of my sons, Jeff Thulani, scooped the Pathfinder of the year award, in addition to graduating from Ranger class to Voyager class.

Newcastle Pathfinder club is run by Sithandazile Ndlovu and her assistant Ray Ndlovu. At twenty. Sithandazile Ndlovu is thought to be the youngest club director in the Conference. Sithandazile, fondly known as Sandy, was grateful for the support offered by parents and club staff without which the club would not function, adding that she is so glad to be a part of God’s plan of helping other children to know and understand and serve him through the Pathfinder and Adventurer clubs.

Revelator at the Royal Cornwall Show by Bertie de Nysschen

At the Royal Cornwall Show this year we stepped out in faith and invited Annette de Silva, a professional artist from South Africa, to come over and do her ‘live’ paintings at the show.

The idea was to attract people to our stand and give us an opportunity to speak to them. Well, we were surprised! It worked very well and one of our staff members was able to talk to people about the unity of the Church and the gospel.

The other painting in the traditional Second Coming style was also completed during camp meeting (as Annette accompanied us there) and was donated to ADRA and handed over to Bert Smit, together with a cheque for the £122 from the Cornwall Show. He will now be able to try and raise further funds by selling it if he can.

We split the donations we received at the show between the Cornwall Air Ambulance and ADRA, both of them receiving £122 each at the end of the day. And each person who gave a donation was given a booklet about ADRA and we made sure they understood that the money would be split 50/50 between the two charities.

The afternoon was filled with a display of the various skills and honours, such as knot tying, which the young people have acquired so far during 207. The crowning act of the programme was to reward the children for their achievements.

Certificates of attendance were issued to sixteen Adventurers and Pathfinders. In addition, another eleven certificates were issued for Pathfinders who successfully completed their achievement classes, ranging from Busy Bee to Ranger. To add icing to the cake, two of the children were delighted to receive top honours for their all-round excellence in areas such as attendance, payments of dues, behaviour at home and church. Chipo Mashiri was named Newcastle church’s Adventurer of the year while Jeff Thulani Nkosi was crowned Pathfinder of the year. Patrick Mashiri was delighted and proud of his 7-year-old daughter who received a top honour. He praised the leadership of the Adventurer and Pathfinder clubs for their hard work. ‘It was a blessing to see our Pathfinders and Adventurers leading in church worship. I was touched by the sermon. We can only give glory to God for the children he gave us, especially as we witness his work through them.’

Amulree’s baptism

About twenty-two years ago the emotional and joyous baptism of Vince Quinn took place in the sea at Aberdaron, home of the North Conference’s campsite. Vince had been invited by Pastor Bob Rodd to come as a volunteer to teach climbing at the Senior Camp. He was not a Christian at the time, but enjoyed the camp and new friends so much that he came back four more times. Each time he asked more and more questions about Christianity and attended the services and worship. He finally made his commitment to Christ and was then baptised, even though this meant giving up his job because he could not get Sabbath privileges. He continued to go to camp as one of the most popular staff members Aberdaron has had.

God was working in a wonderful way because it was at this time Roundwood needed a Health and Fitness director, and Vince applied and was accepted for the position. He and his wife, Elene, moved to Crieff where he became a very valued member of the church, and a popular member of the squashes and other clubs. Tragically he died eight years ago of a heart attack, leaving his wife and two children.

Amulree was one of these children and six months ago, now aged 16, she asked Pastor Rodd for studies so she could be baptised. She asked to be baptised at the Family Camp at Aberdaron just the week before because more than twenty who were now attending the Family Camp had been at the camp when Vince was baptised years before.

On 11 August Amulree was invited to the fellowship of the Crieff church and as Pastor Rodd talked, a video was shown of her baptism, thus enabling the church to share in that special event as well.

COMMENDABLE ATTENDANCE

VICTOR and LYNNE SAMWINGA

Marching to Victory!

Sabbath 11 August was a special day for the Adventurers and Pathfinders at Newcastle church as they treated their audience to a rousing programme under the theme ‘Marching to victory’. They started with their various recitals of the aim, motto, pledge, law and promise. Then, a Pathfinder present- ed the sermon of the day. In spite of his age, 11-year-old Olsie D. Ross preached a big sermon reminding his listeners that everyone is involved in a battle in which believers are soldiers in the army of the Lord. Olsie then challenged the church to check whether Christ or Satan was winning the war in their lives. He passionately urged all to claim the victory which is possible only through Jesus and march on victoriously till Jesus comes again.

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by Des Boldeau, Youth director, BUC

Full of surprises, ‘Backbreaking but rewarding work’ is a great culturalexperience. ‘We’ve done two weekswork in one week.’ ‘As the building is going up, the family is growingup.’

These are some of the comments from the team who travelled to Kenya on 28 June-17 July as part of the BUC Youth Department Mission Project.

The mission was furnished in an atmosphere of a bible-classroom extension including a new dining and kitchen area at the Kajado Adventist Girls’ School for young girls from the Maasai people, contributing community health clinics, promoting personal health matters to pupils in schools and evangelistic meetings.

The approach of this project was to join with local workers and youth volunteers in completing this assignment. The funding came from our 2006 ADRA-UK Annual Appeal, of which £25,000 was donated to the project.

Sabbath highlights included worshipping with the local congregation in the open air with nothing but the canopy of a beautiful blue sky for covering. We sat from 9am until 1pm, trying desperately to dodge the moving sun beating down upon our insufficient bodies. The few trees offered little shade protection. Special music was provided by the Maasai Girls’ School choir, whose voices blended beautifully to offer a memorable act of worship. Four of our own young ladies also graced the waiting church with their beautifully harmonious singing.

The location of the evangelistic campaign was in fact an open-air venue in Bora-Bora, at a busy crossroads with people coming and going and children playing and fighting! The public address system was rigged to a pole about thirty feet long and tied to a lampost. There was no platform which served to focus the attention of those who attended, including those who were standing in the doorways of their shops and even people in their homes.

Pastor Sam Davis and our own young Troy Fiddel were the speakers for the two-week period. However, the challenges of speaking to a less than attentive audience, with all the noise of life going on around them, was something to which they had to become reconciled very quickly. Work began on the building with a passion on Sunday morning 1 July and it was a wonderful sight to see everyone in their purple project T-shirts buzzing around the building site, carrying water, pushing wheelbarrows of sand, stones, bailiffs and cement and mixing them into mortar. By lunchtime, many of us were ready to ‘fakke out’ in a corner somewhere! Before long some of our folk began to show signs of blisters with the accompanying cuts and bruises from the rough and rugged stones – stones which weighed from about 10 to 25 kgs each!

Our school team addressed issues like HIV awareness, self-esteem, cultural differences and personal and dental hygiene. This team was led by Justin McKenzie, an art teacher. Pastor Wilson, the school chaplain and a teacher, remarked that ‘this was a unique opportunity for both teachers and pupils to see and hear a different perspective of life and a freshness of the presentation on subjects which do not form part of the regular curriculum.’

On the health front, the medical team went into two of the neighbouring villages (Elangata – Wiusa and Gatu Maasai villages) where they saw close to 400 patients with ailments ranging from upper respiratory tract infection to eczema. The team was also accompanied by Dr Simon Ondondo who is a consultant. Insalvable support was also provided by Dr Mary Njoroge, Health Ministry director of the Central Kenya Conference who was with us when we visited local communities. Without his support and assistance the health aspect of the project could not have taken place.

The medical team, led by Millie Williams, conducted a clinic at the hotel where we stayed as well as the church on the worksite. Medication to the tune of 63,115 shillings or £500, was provided by ADRA Kenya and the British Union Conference.

On Sunday morning we began the building of the roof trusses. By the end of the day we had most of the trusses in place and the structure was beginning to take shape. One memorable sight was seeing all hands on deck diligently beavering away, sawing, stripping each joint with metal tools, nailing and carrying these trusses and getting them in place.

By Tuesday 10 July, the galvanised sheets were being nailed onto the roof. The structure was beginning to look like a building ready to be inhabited.

The following day Valerie Rice and her team (Harry and Terry) diligently checked away at the job of installing the conduits for electricity in the building. Both rooms were completed by Wednesday afternoon.

We saw the Kenyan plating team in action. You have never seen plating like this! These folks worked with perfect synchronisation as they slapped the loosely-mixed mortar onto the very rough and rugged surface of the walls.

Thursday was a busy day with a visit to a traditional Maasai village in the morning. One of the Maasai ladies was interested in painting handsomely for some of our young ladies! The major problem was how to get the 80 cows for each person across the waters to the UK!

In the afternoon, the long-awaited handing-over ceremony took place. Many local and civic leaders were present, including the Chief Executive director for the CNC, Pastor Peter Ndeti and the Union Conference Executive director, Pastor Paul Musyia. Country director for ADRA Kenya, George Baden, was also present. I had the privilege of representing the BUC, ADRA-UK and the group of warriors who devoted so much time, finance and energy to ensuring that the project was completed.

One of the highlights from the handing-over ceremony was a touching recitation by five girls describing the hardships of being brought up as a Maasai female. During the ceremony a plaque which was covered with the Union flag was unveiled to commemorate the work that the BUC team had done. Our hosts, Pastor Shadrach and Madam Jacinta, went to great lengths to procure a Union flag from the High Commission in Nairobi.

The ceremony over, we rose to the sound of a football match against Kenya’s youth volunteers and building workers. However, we came away with plenty of bruises to our bodies and egos as we lost – but by just one goal! 3-2!

On Sabbath morning we had our worship and prayed that the Lord would bless us for that day. We began our journey with experiences into the great Maasai Mara Game Reserve. We did not have to wait long to begin to see the wonders of God’s beautiful creation in the forms of gazelles, zebras, elephants, jackals, antelopes, hyenas, eagles, vultures, hoppers, crocodiles, a secre-tary bird, ostriches, giraffes, impalas and, of course, several hundred cattle, which represents the wealth of the Maasai people. The cattle were not part of the Maasai Reserve but grazed freely in the open section of the park.

We stopped at one point near a small airport and sat on the grass, singing and worshipping God for his wonders and his unfailing love. Pastor Sam spoke with us from Jeremiah 18 about God’s desire to remake us to reflect his character. The journey through the park was relaxed and wonderfully comple-mented by the beautiful rolling hills and mountains in the background.

Sunday was another wonderful early morning safari, followed by the hazardous ride back to Nairobi. On Monday, Pastor Sam and I spent the morning in meetings. ADRA Kenya had organised a lunch for the group. At this time the group members all received a ceramic image of the ADRA logo as a memento of their visit.

That afternoon, as we were leaving the hotel, one last-minute souve- nior shopping was all that was left to do, braving the crowds and its insistent traders was an adven-ture in itself!

However, all made it back home safely and we praised God for the blessings he gave us during this eventful and most important mission project.

As a group we looked out for and discussed the needs around us and the way forward. It was at that point that we decided unanimously that we should continue to do something to assist the children and the school. We voted to start the process by

Kenyay Mission Project

On Sunday afternoon 27 May, three young people publicly demonstrated their decision to follow Christ.

Wood Green church was packed to capacity with family, friends and members who came to support and witness the baptism of Cassandra Balisson, Natalie Walsh and Daniel Veerapen. Each chose a passage of Scripture that meant a lot to them and was read prior to their immersion.

Cassandra grew up in the church and has shown a keen bent for writing poetry, some of which she has read in church on many occa-sions, and Pastor Elyan Brooks, BUC Personal Ministries director, took the participants through a comprehen-sive review of generational changes in British society and how they have impacted on approaches to evangelism. It seems that people are more now to be based on what a person experiences rather than what they are told.

Consequently we should no longer expect people to ‘Come and see’ and ‘Go and be’ – mingling, as Christ did, with those in need of the Gospel. Pastor Paul describes this personal touch with the fish’ rather than ‘Fishing from the shelf’. The seminar included a detailed explanation of the BUC LIFEdevelopment programme. Other speakers included Scottish Mission president, Llew Edwards (‘Walking the line of Faith’) and Karin Edwards (‘Prayer and Evangelism’), Seminar organiser and Church Growth spon-sor for Scotland, David Hatch, said afterwards that the pro- gramme has not been widely embraced because it may not have been fully understood. Those who attended the seminar should now have a very clear picture of this approach to reaching others for Jesus and I am looking forward to LIFEdevelopment’s effective use throughout Scotland.

Glasgow pastor, Clifford Herman, will be leading a local eight-week Sabbath afternoon follow-up pro- gramme on the theme of ‘Sharing your faith with friends’.

JENNY WILLIS
Commissioner (U.K.)

Come and see’ or ‘Go and be’

Glasgow church was the venue, on 29 and 29 July, for a National Training Event with Kenyan speakers, Pastor Miroslav Puska, TED Life development director, and Pastor Elyan Brooks, BUC Personal Ministries director. The participants through a comprehensive review of generational changes in British society and how they have impacted on approaches to evangelism. It seems that people are more now to be based on what a person experiences rather than what they are told.

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Wood Green baptism
Legislation Relating to Disability and Special Needs Awareness

by Sharon Platt-McDonald, BUC Health director and Special Needs co-ordinator

In line with current statutory regulations and our mission as a Church, it is felt necessary to develop the role of Special Needs co-ordinator to ensure that special needs are dealt with in a sensitive and appropriate manner.

The duties of the Disability Discrimination Act

Since December 1996 it has been unlawful for churches to treat children and adults with disabilities less favourably for a reason related to their disability.

Since October 1999, churches, under Section 21 of the Disability Discrimination Act, have had to make ‘reasonable adjustments’ for people with disabilities, such as providing extra help or making changes to facilities to ensure they can access the church. The ‘reasonable adjustments’ Act requires to make, practices and procedures which could exclude people with disabilities.

Since October 2004, churches will have had to make ‘reasonable adjustments’ to the physical features of the premises to overcome barriers which make it impossible or unreasonably difficult for people with disabilities to access the church.

The church board or leadership team needs to inform the church members and community of their buildings and facilities are not accessible to discriminate against disabled people.

Churches should consult with disability activists and draw up a strategy to ensure that the church is open to everyone. The audit should address both physical and non-physical barriers to access for people with disabilities and special needs.

The BUC’s strategy for special needs has been introduced and is an SDA church-based ministry established to provide resources, education, support and training in the ministry of those who have special needs.

Roundhill Health Spa, operated by the Adventist Church, is to be sold following a decision by the British Union Conference Executive Committee on Thursday, 16 July. The decision comes following years of significant adjustment. The church has sought to find a viable alternative for the facility, which has been in operation for 50 years.

The decision is in line with the aim of the church to ensure the facility is open to everyone, reflecting the values of the church. The sale will help to fund the church’s mission and support in the community.

Roundeclude the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 and your church

It is hoped that examples of excellence and collaboration will encourage other churches to adopt similar practices.

Duties of the church board or leadership team

1. Provide a detailed report to the church on the implementation of the duties of the church board or leadership team.

2. Ensure all churches are aware of the DDA guidelines and policies.

3. Fundraising for the implementation of training, education and special needs resources.

4. Encouragement of the provision of resources, education and support in the ministry of those with special needs.

5. The Stakenborg Press Ltd has a vacancy for an Administrative Assistant. The closing date is 30 June. Contact the Stakenborg Press Ltd for further details.

6. The Specialty Coffee Association is holding a conference in Sheffield on 20-22 July.

7. The Adventist Church is holding a conference in Michigan on 1-3 August.

8. The British Union Conference is holding a conference in London on 10-12 August.

9. The Local Church is holding a conference in Birmingham on 15-17 August.

10. The Special Needs Association is holding a conference in London on 24-26 August.

11. The British Union Conference is holding a conference in London on 10-12 August.

12. The Local Church is holding a conference in Birmingham on 15-17 August.

13. The Special Needs Association is holding a conference in London on 24-26 August.

14. The British Union Conference is holding a conference in London on 10-12 August.

15. The Local Church is holding a conference in Birmingham on 15-17 August.

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39. The Local Church is holding a conference in Birmingham on 15-17 August.

40. The Special Needs Association is holding a conference in London on 24-26 August.
Congratulations!

R

Elaine and Laura Jeffery. The young women have never doubted God’s leading in their lives throughout their studies for their MSc and degrees at the University of Bath. The twins, who both

With heavy showers hitting London from Saturday night right through to the early morning of 29 July, the prospects of a sunny Sunday looked extremely grim. However, the London Youth Federation (LYF) members and hundreds of church members turned up at Crystal Palace looking for a break in the clouds.

The day kicked off with a great opening from the Holloway Drum Core who marched us right into the 1500 metres intermediate/senior track event. Throughout the day the sun kept on breaking through the clouds while nineteen participating churches cheered, jumped, and had a great time.

LYF sports days are special, with a fantastic euphoria emanating from the stands with drums, horns, whistles and singing. Each church has its unique sound. Some came well prepared with supporters wearing a colour-code that made them stand out in reds, oranges and blues. One team organiser stated that this was “clearly a time when family and friends, churched and unchurched, can come together and have a great time.”

The 100 metres and 4 x 100 metres relay events got everyone on their feet in a thunder of eager anticipation to see who crossed the finishing line... and 50 metres under eights events clearly showed the potential and ability of our youngsters in the church. Parents and trainers cheered them on. It was an exciting event and, at one point, it looked as if parents wanted to jump on the tracks and carry their child over the finishing line themselves!

The day ended around 8pm with an encouraging prayer from SEC Youth director, Colin Stewart, and hundreds of pictures being taken of the winners. Waddon 1st place, Stratford 2nd place and Tottenham Green Road 3rd place.

Crystal Palace is happy to host the sports day again next July when we hope to get over twenty-five participating churches. Start training now as the participants are getting faster and faster, jumping higher and longer every year!

The 100 metres and 4 x 100 metres relay events got everyone on their feet in a thunder of eager anticipation to see who crossed the finishing line first. The 150 pre-junior and 50 metres under eights events clearly showed the potential and ability of our youngsters in the church. Parents and.

All London Sports Day

by Eugene James, London Youth Federation president

University of Bristol, and is to under-

take PhD research at the same uni-

versity. Jonathan Blackburn graduat-

ed from Cambridge University with a

Masters in Engineering and his

brother, Austin Blackburn, graduated with a Bachelor of Music (Hons) from Birmingham Conservatoire.

Chasiss Passmore is finishing her

Operating Department Practitioner’s

Diploma from Plymouth University.

Jasong Chang, of Manchester Central

church, has graduated with an MSc

in International Business and been

accepted as a PhD student at

Salford Business School.

Have we missed anyone? If so

and you have obtained a degree this

year, please contact the editor at

editor@dnm@mac.com.