The Prime Minister of Jamaica, the Honourable Bruce Golding MP, felt at home among family and friends at the Brixton Adventist church on Sabbath 24 May. He was accompanied by his wife Mrs Lorna Golding, the Jamaican High Commissioner Mr Burchell Whiteman, and Mrs Whiteman, Dr Ronald Robinson (Junior Foreign Affairs minister), and other dignitaries. The waiting 800-strong congregation stood as the party was ushered into the worship service to the beat of the Pathfinder drum corps, to be welcomed by the resident minister, Pastor Hamilton Williams.

Pastor Sam Davis, president of the South England Conference, gave the main prayer, asking God to grant wisdom to the Jamaican Prime Minister as he leads his country at a most challenging time. Pastor Davis proceeded to give a cordial welcome to the party on behalf of the South England Conference and introduced the Jamaican High Commissioner, Mr Burchell Whiteman, who eloquently set the stage for the Prime Minister’s address.

As Prime Minister Golding stood up, he started by saying, ‘God is good!’ and the congregation responded, ‘All the time!’ He went on to say that he belongs to an Adventist home, because his wife of thirty-six years, Mrs Lorna Golding, is a Seventh-day Adventist and she governs the home by Adventist principles.

Mr Golding stated that his vision is to build Jamaica through the participation of all Jamaicans, at home and abroad, referring to the Jamaicans abroad as part of the extended family. He brought his speech to a close by introducing his British Adventist family, the de Lissers, who are members of the Brixton church. Mrs Dorothy de Lisser is Mrs Lorna Golding’s sister, and one of many reasons why they had chosen to come and worship at Brixton.

Mr Golding then took his seat to listen to the song of meditation ‘There is a Name’, rendered by his niece Paulette de Lisser-Marceny. The worship service speaker was Pastor Jonas Antias, Associate Ministerial Secretary from the General Conference.

Prime Minister Golding and his team stayed behind to shake hands with and greet members and visitors. This brought to an end a five-day UK tour which saw the Prime Minister meet with British Prime Minister Gordon Brown, as well as fellow Jamaicans and friends of Jamaica in London, Birmingham, Manchester and Nottingham.
People are beginning to feel that life is not as good as it was. Some people are being forced to travel less and not have such a high living standard. They have to blame someone, so it must be the government’s fault! However, most of the issues we are facing in this country have little to do with our government. My guess is that over the next few years we are going to see a lot more anger as people’s living standards are cut.

As we steadily move towards the return of Christ, things are not going to be pretty. We are well aware that natural disasters will increase. Yes, we are going to see a lot more Chinas and Burmas. Wars will increase. Whether these will be caused by food and water shortages, partially caused by global warming, I don’t know, but increase they will.

People’s behaviour will get worse, and their love will grow cold (Matthew 24:12). When we see all these things happening, what shall we do? Shall we do what we must do – complain how it is affecting us and blame the government? Or shall we be increasingly aware that these are not just local events but of global – indeed universal – relevance? Shall we be conscious of the Scriptures that we know so well, and shall we go along with the complaining, angry masses? After Jesus had outlined conditions before his return, he admonished us to respond:

‘Therefore keep watch, because you do not know on what day your Lord will come.’

Matthew 24:12

Be compassionate. ‘For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat; I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink.’ Matthew 25:35. When predicted events happen, we can either complain about the government, or follow Jesus’ advice.

Vegans are recommended to ensure their diet includes

- Choline
- Also help the nervous system carry information to a large network of nerves throughout the body. The brain uses the information it receives from the nerves to coordinate all actions and reactions. A key vitamin crucial to brain health is Vitamin B.

- Folic acid
- Good health!

- B vitamins
- Nuts, brewers’ yeast, legumes, nuts, eggs, wheat-germ

When Gemma Gee showed up at church for the first time she was in a bewilderingly unfa- miliar city. City of university and a city of church. She arrived at university and had selected the Saturday church because, back home, she had a school friend who was a Saturday person and who had suggested Gemma Gee go for the Saturday people a try. Because of her friend back home, Gemma knew that Saturday people dressed up for church. So she selected her best dress, jacket and shoes, and dressed up, too.

Gemma says that her motive in showing up at church was to desire to meet people who were like her friend back home and, hopefully, get to know the Friend that everyone spoke so much about. She had deliberately adopted the dress code of the group by ‘dressing up’. She had waded up all her clothes necessary to enter a large building where the vast majority of the members were matronly women with ridiculously serious hats. Even before she entered the church tentatively – in an aisle seat not far too the door, she knew something was wrong from the stares of the matrons. She had arrived in the full between services. People were on the move. There were swiftly, hostile stares back at her. A posse of matrons materialised at her side and asked her, in a manner reminiscent of a policeman making an arrest, to stop outside and meet them in the mothers’ room.

Once there, the arrest party became judge and jury. It was like a replay of John 6:5.

Woman Taken in Adultery. But the stones were thrown and Jesus was not present. Her offence? Had she transgressed all 28 Fundamentals of her church? Fundamentals on her first visit to church? As the verbal rocks hit her she gathered that she had transgressed their dress code in one respect: she had worn earrings. So she had failed an earning of a sort then fashionable among the smart set. The verbal rocks rained down on her until she was convulsed by sobs.

The next day, she was modelling, sort of. The matrons had hit Gemma where she was most sensitive: she took her with care. The coercive of their approach caught her, nor that strict conformity to the dress code was enforced by the matrons because they could not forgive her for the unpardonable sin of being wrong. She believed that their views and approach accounted for a total absence of anyone under 30 in that congregation. The enforcement of the dress code was the means they used to preserve the social purity of their club for the middle-aged and elderly. She thought.

Gemma finds what she calls ‘happy clappy’ worship deeply embarrassing. Nevertheless, she has settled for the Pentecostal Sunday church along the road. There, she was well. New studies on Vitamin D from researchers in California suggest that Vitamin D may help promote brain health. Some vitamin D is converted to the body to its active form, calcitriol, a 4-6 times in the brain. Scientists at the Children’s Hospital & Research Center, Oakland, CA, are also parsleyring whether there is convincing biological or behavioural evidence linking vitamin D deficiency to brain dysfunction.

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What sort of service do your visitors receive?

by Pastor Sam Davis, SEC president

My wife and I have recently returned from a Caribbean cruise where we literally sat back and allowed others to take care of all our needs. We were impressed with the quality of service shown to all guests throughout the nine days that we were on board. There was always a welcoming smile from the waitresses who greeted us at the entrance of any of the ten onboard restaurants. Nothing appeared to be too much trouble for them. They were there to serve.

On the last day of the cruise we decided that we would go back to one of the more classy restaurants on board. However, we had already been to this restaurant and we were not too keen on doing so again. My wife had suggested that morning that I should take the children to one of the more classy restaurants on board. However, we had already been to this restaurant and we were not too keen on doing so again. My wife had suggested that morning that I should take the children to one of the more classy restaurants on board. However, we had already been to this restaurant and we were not too keen on doing so again.

The power of education to influence the mind, to mould characters and to effect beneficial change has always been recognised as one of the highest priorities in the Seventh-day Adventist church. This was evidenced by the large number of educational stalls that were erected in readiness for the fair. They displayed a variety of resources and products, massage therapy, as well as innovative Sabbath School programme activities for children (Croydon church).

The greeter welcomed us warmly and invited us into the car and drove away in order not to embarrass ourselves any further. As part of their hospitality training at Newbold College we were required to go and listen to one of the outstanding preachers of the day. The chosen speaker was the Revd John Stott of All Souls, Langham Place, London. I will never forget the welcome we received as we arrived at the church. The greater welcomed us warmly and invited us downstairs for tea, coffee and biscuits. Before we got to our seats we were welcomed at least three times. I got the impression they were serious and genuinely meant what they said about ‘welcome’. The sermon was well worth the visit. As we returned to the service, we were again invited to join them downstairs for drinks or something to eat. I remember saying to my friend Fred ‘Mops’. ‘How was it? I am an Adventist, I will join this church.’

All of us can no doubt tell our horror stories about unfriendly and unwelcoming churches. However, the truth is that one of the most welcoming places on Earth ought to be the church. Because of what we do and what we stand for, it is in our best interests that the person who feels the most welcome is the visitor in the pew. The welcoming smile, the friendly service, the level of hospitality were clearly evident onboard ship. I would have no problem repeating the experience. Many visitors choose not to return to our churches because these graces are missing.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our folks for continuing to love and enjoy their school; for the devotion and support that all parents have for our school; for the dedicated staff who give over 100% willingly to the cause of our school; to the Governors who support us unthinkingly; and, finally, to God who is the Master of our school.

Conceive, believe, achieve

by Joan Reid, Brixton Education dept

My wife had suggested that morning that I should take lunch with me, but I assured her that this would not be necessary as I was sure that members would accommodate my needs where I was concerned. I could not have been more wrong. After some embarrassing minutes of waiting, I got into the car and drove away in order not to embarrass myself any further.

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A celebration of Adventist education

HYLUND HOUSE SDA INDEPENDENT SCHOOL has a visit from Ofsted

by Gina Abbequaye, head teacher and SEC Education director

On Tuesday 14 and Wednesday 16 April, Hyland House School was inspected by Ofsted under section 163A of the Education Act 2002 (as amended by schedule 8 of the Education Act 2005). As is the practice of this new version of Ofsted, we were given a two-day notice that we would be inspected.

Relationships between the staff and pupils and between the pupils themselves are warm, caring and respectful. Pupils are confident in speaking to staff and will share their problems and ask for help with their work, assured that they will have a positive response. One year 6 commented, ‘Teachers always give you extra help if you don’t understand – they feel for you when you are stuck.’ There were examples of good and outstanding teaching.

Ofsted have four gradings when inspecting schools. They are as follows:

- INADEQUATE
- SATISFACTORY
- GOOD
- OUTSTANDING

Following are the areas that were inspected:

- Quality of education
- Spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils
- Welfare, health and safety of pupils
- Suitability of the proprietor
- Premises and accommodation
- Provision of information to parents and carers and others
- Procedures for handling complaints

Ofsted’s evaluation of Hyland House School is as follows:

- The quality of education provided at Hyland House School is GOOD. There is an interesting and varied curriculum and GOOD teaching which engages pupils’ interests effectively, as a result, pupils make good progress. Pupils’ personal development and behaviour are OUTSTANDING.
- Parents and pupils are very positive about the school, which has a clear Christian ethos and provides a GOOD quality of care.

Following are the judgements made on the areas inspected:

- Quality of education – GOOD
- Spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils – GOOD
- Welfare, health and safety – GOOD
- Suitability of proprietor – GOOD
- Premises and accommodation – SATISFACTORY
- Provision of information – GOOD
- Complaints procedure – GOOD

Hyland House School has been judged to be a good school with some outstanding qualities.
Pastor Robert Hines speaks in the marquee.

The Bank Holiday weather was described as ‘a washout’ – first by weather forecasters, and later by newspaper headline writers, as in some parts of the West Country and Wales nearly a month’s rain fell in a couple of days. There is no question that the Brecon Family Camp, which ran from Friday 23 to Monday 26 May, was wet. It rained as people arrived on Friday evening and it rained as they left on Monday morning, but it was what happened in between that was important.

The Brecon Camps have been popular for over thirty years now and they have a dedicated following. Over the years they have attracted families and young people alike. However, as the camps are self-catering and require a fair amount of equipment, they can be a bit of a struggle for young people who don’t have much camping experience. So this year Jeremy Tremeer, the Welch Mission Youth sponsor and camp director, introduced a few changes to try to make it easier for young people to attend.

Firstly, he arranged for a catering tent to feed any young people who did not have cooking facilities. This was run by volunteers Jane Toff-Bayliss, who lives nearby, and her sister Metti Toff-Zumbuhl, who came to the camp all the way from Switzerland.

Secondly, Jeremy brought in a youth speaker who was known to the young people from the recent ‘Three Missions Weekends’ in Scotland. Pastor Robert Hines had not been to a Brecon Camp before but went down well with young and old alike. Over the weekend his theme was ‘Parables of Life’ and in each of the worship services he presented two parables – one for the children and one for the older ones. Many people commented on Pastor Hines’ energetic and animated style, as well as his graphic illustrations. Few will forget, for example, the story of how his father grazed his hand with a machete while cutting a length of sugar cane!

A third activity designed to appeal particularly to young people was a trip to a nearby climbing centre. Here, for nearly three hours on a grey and drizzling Sunday afternoon, twenty-four campers, ranging in age from under ten to forty-something, tackled caves, rope bridges and twenty-metre vertical walls – and had a great deal of fun in the process.

Other innovations at the camp included a larger marquee, possibly the largest the camp has ever had, and extra portaloos – a total of eight.

Some observers believe that this year’s Brecon Camp was the best-attended ever. During the Sabbath service there were about 170 people in the marquee and even on the final day, when quite a few had already left, there were still about 100 in worship. Altogether, well over 200 people passed through the camp at some time or other over the weekend.

As the rain-lashed campers left the field on Bank Holiday Monday, they took with them memories of good food, new friendships, excellent worship music, and thought-provoking talks. They also took a renewed sense of how much they had enjoyed learning. A third activity designed to appeal particularly to young people was a trip to a nearby climbing centre.

Approximately 100 pictures from the camp can be seen on the Welsh Mission website: www.adventistwales.org. See also www.adventistpictures.org.uk/gallery/2008/Brecon/index.php.

Whom did you meet? What did you think of the Brecon Camp? Please write your comments to the Editor, www.adventistwales.org, or post them on your church’s website.

www.adventistpictures.org.uk

**£307,000 grant for Burma as Mark returns home**

Mark returns home by Victor Hubert, BUC Communication director

ADRA-UK signed a contract with DFID (the Department for International Development) on Monday 2 June that will enable ADRA to provide shelter for 30,000 displaced persons. The project is called ‘Labutta Cyclone Relief Phase I’. Valued at £307,000 from DFID, with an additional £30,000 from ADRA-UK, the £337,000 programme will run from 4 June for two months.

ADRA-UK director Bert Smit is very positive about the project. ‘This will make a significant difference in helping people to rebuild their lives in Burma.’

Mark Castellino, Programmes Director for ADRA-UK, has just returned from a three-week stint in Burma (Myanmar), where he has been part of the International Emergency response team. ‘This cyclone has affected so many people. So many people were displaced. So many people died. Our response as a humanitarian community is still not reaching all of those who have been affected. Mark stated on his return.

When Mark arrived in Burma on 10 May, the team set about developing a plan for supplying food, shelter, basic household items, water and sanitation. ‘We look at some specific areas of the country where ADRA has been working in the past,’ Mark said.

Because ADRA was already working in the Delta area, it was much easier for their teams to be diverted from current projects and to start providing emergency aid. ‘A lot of organisations in the area had real challenges working in Burma, quite simply because they have not been working there before,’ Mark reported. However, ADRA has been well supported. Mark achieved his view in record time – less than twenty-two hours. While chiefly responsible for planning, he was based in Rangoon, and the 180 local staff employed by ADRA have freed access to the Delta area where they have particularly focused on the area south of Labutta, made up of small islands and waterways only accessible by boat. The national staff descended on the Delta area from across Burma and are working long hours,’ Mark reported. Together with additional staff that ADRA have taken on, they are providing assistance to thousands who would otherwise be cut off from help.

Mark has been to Burma before, but he was astounded by the devastation he saw. ‘It was so unfamiliar,’ he said. ‘The city looked significantly different. Rangoon is full of trees, but driving down from the airport I saw tree after tree after tree that had been uprooted. There was a lot of damage…a lot of destruction.’

Mark was more perturbed as he found that ADRA staff in the Delta area had also died in the cyclone. ‘To think that there are colleagues within this organisation whose lives have been lost was really hard.’

However, there were positive stories, too. As part of the tsunami reconstruction project ADRA had built twenty-two new bridges.

‘When the cyclone hit a lot of people sought refuge under the bridges as the only thing that could really protect them.’ ADRA Myanmar estimates that these bridges saved around 900 lives.

The donations we receive from the public really are our lifeblood,’ Mark reports. Over £300,000 has been donated by the general public specifically for the Burma appeal in the last three months. This adds to significant funding from DFID, the World Food Programme and many other organisations but, Mark says, while the death and displacement in Burma has been equal to that of the Southeast Asian tsunami, the response to date from the public has not been so great. ‘The international community is very much engaged with this process,’ Mark reports. His last weekend in Burma saw him at an International Pledging conference where many donors came together. ‘We were able to meet with the minister for International Development from the British Government, which is one of the largest donors to the Cyclone Relief Effort. This good engagement helps provide the money to respond to some of these needs.

‘For me, personally, I’m very grateful that I can be part of the response,’ Mark emphasises. ‘When I left Burma it was really quite difficult to disengage with the work I have been doing there. It was a very intense three weeks.’ Mark will be returning to Burma shortly to oversee the project and continue developing lines of credit for people in the hard hit Delta region.

If you would like to assist ADRA in their emergency relief work in Burma, or find out the latest news from Burma, China and other regions, please visit the ADRA-UK website, www.adra-uk.org. Donations can be made online or by sending your cheque (or it if possible) to ADRA-UK, Stansborough Park, Watford, Herts, WD25 9JZ.

Mark’s full interview can be viewed online at www.hopetv.org.uk.
What a day of rejoicing!

The glorious, sunny weather of 10 May seemed to pervade the sanctuary as the friends and family of nine precious souls witnessed their baptism at Leicester Central church. All the candidates had written heartfelt statements about why they had chosen to be baptised that moved much of the congregation to tears. It was particularly moving to see so many teenagers take the baptismal vows.

Eighteen-year-old Andrew Henry wrote a particularly touching statement about being dragged by illness all his life, including a hole in the heart, and the trauma he suffered last year as a result of two good friends dying in a road traffic accident. There was also much joy in the Muchenagumbo household, as brother and sister, Nigel and Violet, committed their lives to service for Christ.

Tendai Chiwagurwiga talked of being initially tricked into coming to church by his friend, Nigel, and then coming to study the Word for himself and never looking back since. Rodrick Chagamanga, who completes the trio of friends, made an emotional speech about them being nothing left in the world for young people, and hoped the example he set would be followed by some of the other youngsters looking on.

The other young ladies who were baptised, Pendo Chris Phales, Yvonne Taylor and Michelle Zviuya, all bore witness to the fact that they had tried the alternative to a committed Christian lifestyle and that nothing compared. There seemed to be an extra glint in the eye of Pastor Paul Liburd as he baptised his firstborn, Abigail.

As each of the candidates rose from the water and had their favourite hymns sung, the Shona lyrics for the candidates that originated from Zimbabwe were joyful and melodious.

There was more harmonious singing from Jane Liburd, the Leicester Central Choir and the girl group, Salvation Six. Pastor Liburd admonished all present that rejoicing was the order of the day for everyone, as we all knew how the story ended: with Jesus conquering sin forever and, should we choose to accept Jesus Christ as our personal Saviour, all of us living in peace and harmony together forevermore.

DENISE WILLIAMS

Middlesbrough helps Myanmar

Thursday morning, tables in a large church hall and those tables loaded with toys, books, DVDs, clean clothes. It was possibly a regular table-top sale, but, in this case, a chance to raise funds for ADRA, a worldwide development and relief charity currently hard at work in Burma, trying to provide aid for the populace of the Irrawaddy delta hard hit by the recent cyclone.

Caroline, pictured with a customer (Ludy Robinson), was trying to offer support to her friend with whom she has been communicating over the Internet. Caring for one of the stalls was Caroline Pace whose friend Mark Castellino is currently preparing plans for future work by the local workers for ADRA-Myanmar. His work on his last visit centred on the bridges that were installed by the charity in the Irrawaddy delta prior to the cyclone. Those bridges sheltered hundreds of people from the storm raging above them that was destroying crops, houses and livelihoods.

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In 1910 Williams married Mabel Donaldson in Rangoon. The marriage was conducted by Pastor H. H. Alford. Mabel Williams, at 42, qualified as a State Certified Midwife in London in order to help them with the birth of their baby, born by caesarian section. She was the first midwife to work among the villages of Burma, and she worked in the treatment rooms of the new Stanboroughs Hydro in Watford.

Medical training
Alfred Williams, through 45, had never given up on his dream of completing his medical training. Hence his priority on landing was to confirm his place at Medical School. Within a month he was working on his first MB. His mother moved in to keep house, and plans were put in hand to build a house. In November 1934 the BUC offered Williams a job as manager of the Hydro. Committed to his medical studies, he declined. In 1936 his second wife Iris, who had both nursing and midwifery qualifications, accepted the matron’s post at the San.

In 1945 the San was requisitioned for use as part of the medical school for University College Hospital. The building was returned to the British Union in July 1945, and Alfred was asked to put the place up and running again. For a number of years Dr Williams was both medical director and business administrator. The terms of employment were that Dr Williams would not accept remuneration until the institution had been in profit for two years. The agreement was that Dr Williams or his partners would determine what the course of medical treatment took. Pre-war medical practices would be re-evaluated and retained or discontinued in light of current medical practice.

As with all the Union’s schools, Dr Williams wanted a health service that would benefit all the people of the union, including the wives of a number of significant figures in public life.

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We are using this anniversary to remember ‘The Stanboroughs’ and, in particular, the contribution of its post-war champion, Dr G. W. Pettit, M. M. Mattison, G. G. Lowery, I. F. Blue, R. D. Brisbin, C. F. Lowery, G. W. Pettit, M. M. Mattison, C. L. Mann, Hawley, J. J. Biocini, A. E. Honley, G. E. Peters, W. H. Hollins and E. C. Burdick. We are also using this occasion to remember the remarkable man’s story – in Burma, India and in Britain – and recall the crisis that precipitated the closure of the Stanboroughs just forty years ago.

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Dr and Mrs Williams dismantled, cleaned and sterilised pre-war medical equipment until it shone. An operating theatre was maintained at a standard of readiness. Other surgeons began seeing their private patients at The Stanboroughs, as it became known. Fees paid by patient and surgeon alike went into the coffers. Formal departmental heads were appointed and met with Dr. H. Williams on a weekly basis. At those meetings Dr Williams (or, following his appointment as business administrator, Mr. G. W. Pettit) went through departmental costs with a fine-tooth comb. Slowly, as the rooms were repaired, redecorated and refurnished, the Stanboroughs acquired an excellent reputation. Dr Williams visited the Adventist health institutions in Sweden and Denmark and implemented the best of what he found there.

The winds of change
At the British Union Conference session in the De Montfort Hall, Leicester at Easter 1967, Dr. Bernard Seton was elected president, and Bernard Comb wrote to the leadership of the Stanboroughs Nursing Home at Aylesbury, and the Stanboroughs Nursing Home at Aylesbury.

In 1910 Williams married Mabel Donaldson in Rangoon. The marriage was conducted by Pastor H. H. Alford. Mabel Williams, at 42, qualified as a State Certified Midwife in London in order to help them with the birth of their baby, born by caesarian section. She was the first midwife to work among the villages of Burma, and she worked in the treatment rooms of the new Stanboroughs Hydro in Watford.

Medical training
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A. H. Williams qualified as a doctor in 1910. After a period in general practice, Dr. A. H. Williams was appointed Registrar at the Emergency Medical Services Unit at Sheddows Infirmary. At the same time he accepted the invitation of the BUC President to work as a self-employed medical officer, with the additional role of setting up his own practice. During his period at Sheddows and subsequent to setting up his own practice, Dr. A. H. Williams was an on-call surgeon on a roster made up of local doctors holding an F.R.C.S. When he retired from Medicine in 1961 the Sheeboard Lane practice continued to four doctors: Dr. A. H. Williams, Dr. Hugh O. Williams, Dr. S. Guest and Dr. J. T. Gallaway. His son, Dr. Hugh O. Williams, succeeded him as head of the practice.

Since his ministry to the poorest of the poor in Burma and the colleges for the destitute in India, Dr Williams continued his ministry to the underprivileged as a Watford GP. Throughout the war years he was confronted by young mothers with sick children, no money and a husband away fighting on some front of World War Two. Dr Williams would say, ‘If the children are ill bring them in and we’ll worry about money later.’ In cases either of no account or was sent a very reduced bill was submitted.

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The Stanboroughs Nursing and Maternity Home.

Front: V. L. Mann.


On 22 January 1913 Mabel became seriously ill shortly after her husband had left for the Punjab. She was contacted by telegram and caught the next train home. Mabel was delirious, her tongue horribly swollen. Sublinguals and antibiotics were known, and 10-year-old Leslie Williams knew that Mum was going to die. She died of septicaemia on 6 January at 5am. The bacteria that caused the infection came from a wound on Mabel’s ankle when making her last home visit.

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The Stanboroughs Nursing and Maternity Home.

Front: V. L. Mann.

Stanborough Park, 1962

Granose Foods Ltd

The Stanboroughs
following the addition
of the West Wing

BUC

Stanborough School buildings

VOP

Stanborough Press Ltd

Granose Foods Ltd

Historical Feature

While Seton and Wilson behaved like professionals throughout and reserved their comments and arguments for the committee room, others carried the argument out into the community. A respected and senior BUC Committee member called these persons ‘The Tohah and Santabauls’.

The Stanboroughs bore the brunt of T and D suspicion. The monastery and the operating theatre were, in particular, singled out for attack. Both sides of the argument, at various times, appealed to the Heathland ‘blueprint’.

For some months it was unclear to what extent the heart was being voiced in the community represented reality, though some unfortunate pulpits pronouncements gave credence to them. To Dr Hugh Williams the issue was backfiring by the non-medically trained in matters medical. As a consequence he resigned.

In MESSENGER 19 January 1968, BUC editor Dr Seton wrote of several disturbing conditions which must be radically changed before true prosperity can come to our beloved Church. The fact is, that for a small self-contained Union like ours (the membership was about 10,000), we have undertaken more than we can humanly manage…. The ensuing document made depressing reading. The future of the new Stanborough Press was compromized by the decline in the number of literature evangelists. The coming of socialized medicine (the NHS) and ever mounting costs were blamed for the struggles of the Stanboroughs. Granose was operating in ‘out-of-date premises’ and in a ‘grimly competitive world’. The secondary school was already expensive and needed ‘several additional tens of thousands of pounds spending on it right now’.

The Park for sale?

Between 22-24 April 1968 a ‘representative commission’, including division and union personnel, was sent to consider the state of the British Union. It had only advisory powers but, after a day of vigorous, informed discussion, its report was accepted by the Union Executive on 30 April after a few amendments had been voted.

Union president Seton, one of the most scholarly men ever to head that post, communicated the upshot of the discussions in MESSENGER 7 June 1968:

‘It has been recognised that for so small a field, we are over-institutionalised, that is, we are, in our several institutions, to do more than our present resources permit, and have therefore been stretching those resources beyond their reasonable limits. Persistence in this present course will only increase our difficulties. It was therefore voted, reluctantly and with deep regret, to acknowledge the impracticability of our operating a hospital-type of sanatorium in a land of socialised medicine, and to avoid continued heavy losses by closing the Stanborough Hydro at the earliest date compatible with the fulfillment of our current commitments. This, so far as we can now, means that our sanatorium will close by the end of this year’.

Dr Seton also announced that an investigation had been authorized into the possibility of selling ‘the major remaining portion of Stanborough Park’, while retaining the church, the BUC offices, the new primary school, ‘with the Voice of Prophecy office as a possible extension of the BUC’ and a new secondary school ‘either on or very near the Park’. Later that year ‘green belt’.

NOT THE WHOLE STORY

No attempt has been made to tell the whole story. Names of important personalities will doubtless have been omitted. The story has not been told of the health institutions at Caithness and in Leicester, founded before the one on Stanborough Park and which, for some years, ran parallel with it. In addition, no mention has been made of the CoS health institutions and the work of Dr Gertrude Brown. These stories have been told before in these pages. In the case of Dr Brown, it has been the subject of a book.

‘Our intention here has been to give a brief, the story ‘The San’ in the post-war period and to provide some account of the circumstances that led to its closure. More importantly, we have tried to tell the story of the man who spent a lifetime as a missionary in Africa, and as superintendent of ‘The San’. Dr H. Williams. To the best of our knowledge, this story has not previously appeared in print.

With regard to a matter as contentious as the San closure, even forty years on there are people who are hurting and surviving relations of those who went to their graves hurting. If their story has not been told here, then write it up and post it to the Editor, or email it to the MESSENGER office. If the San story or perspective on the issue has not been reflected, then let us hear from you. This need not be last you hear of the San story.

If you have more to tell, let’s hear it! A hundred miles for ADRA

On Sunday 11 May fifty people and five clergy from five different denominations cycled 100 miles to raise funds for ADRA above the ground. They were there for one purpose: to pray! They over-looked Clydebank and the Clyde river while aircraft ascended and descended at Glasgow’s nearby airport – and prayed for its people. Thirty years on from early Sunday morning, emphasis was placed on the richness that these groups added to the recipient church.

Among the ten major questions he respond-ed to during the one-hour presentat-ion were, several local CoS mem-bers attended. On one Sabbath, some haplessly accepted an invitation to stay and participate in communion.

One of the elders at Fairley Seventh-day Adventist church, Washington Mabuto, cycled 100 miles to raise funds for ADRA on the 8 June. Washington, who is one of the elders at the church, the BUC offices, the new primary school, ‘with the Voice of Prophecy office as a possible exten-sion of the BUC’ and a new second-ary school ‘either on or very near the Park’. Later that year ‘green belt’.

Members raised high in GDP

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Lest we forget!

When asked why he has been so active, the church leader said, ‘I think it is because I have the background. I was a member of the church leadership, which now boasts a membership of 70. He is currently in charge of the baptismal classes at the church.

Hewitt High School in Norwich, Washington is married to Alice, and the couple have three children (a son and two daughters) whom he hopes will follow in his footsteps in the years to come by cycling to raisefunds for good causes.

European pastors question world leadership

by Victor Hulbert, BUC Communication director

Dr Ian Paulsen, world president of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, took part in a live question and comment session with six pastors from around Europe on Wednesday 25 May. This programme, Pastors in Conversation, was updated to the Hope Channel from studios just north of London, and shown around the world.

Introduced by Trans-European Division president Dr Bertil Wiklander, Dr Paulsen answered questions about diversity, emphasizing the richness that these groups add to the recipient church. Among the ten major questions he respond-ed to during the one-hour presentat-ion were, several local CoS mem-bers attended. On one Sabbath, some haplessly accepted an invitation to stay and participate in communion.

Two pastors from England and one from the Republic of Ireland joined with Dutch, Finnish and Norwegian colleagues in what Pastor Ian Sweeney from Leeds called a ‘very open and very brazen’ conversation. He felt rewarded to ‘feel the heart of where Pastor Paulsen is at.’ Pastor Ashwin Somasundram represented churches in the London area and was ‘encour-aged to hear that Pastor Paulsen shares our pastoral concerns and understands our challenges.’ Pastor Steve Wilson flew from Galway and, as the youngest participant, asked some difficult questions relating to pastoral burnout and the reclaiming of lapsed members. His image of the world president had changed and he hopes the sincerity and honesty he sensed in the studio came through in the programme. Galway member, Mary, was among the many who sent a text message to say how much she enjoyed the programme with a ‘clear and refreshing message.’

The programme was coordinated by the General Conference Communication department, and facilitated by the British Union Conference Media team. It will be available on the UK Hope TV web-site: www.hopetv.org. Behind the scenes pictures are available on the BUC picture gallery at www.adventist.org.uk.

A hundred miles for ADRA

One of our brethren at Norwich church, Washington Mabuto, cycled 100 miles to raise funds for ADRA on the 8 June. Washington, who is one of the elders at the church, has been involved in cycling for good causes for the past four years. He has been raising funds for the British Union Conference Foundation, and this year he will not only be raising funds for the foundation, but also for ADRA.

A Zimbabwean-born teacher at Hewitt High School in Norwich, Washington is married to Alice, and the couple have three children (a son and two daughters) whom he hopes will follow in his footsteps in the years to come by cycling to raisefunds for good causes.
Erica Cameron of three. Her life was marked by her caring attitude to others. Firstly, she looked after her parents instead of ... invited back to lunch, including many students, and anybody else who needed a home to go to on Sabbath. These occasions were

The son of a bus driver who experienced the Great Depression in the UK, Alfred was a talented carpenter, and his natural aptitude for design and craftsmanship led him to pursue a career in carpentry.

The church provided the visitors with a delicious and nutritious feast of vegan and vegetarian food.

The preacher was talking about how we communicate on the day that Marie Steward stood up in front of the Darlington church and said, 'Yes, he did do for me what I needed.' Marie, who works for Sainsbury's in Darlington, had arranged the bag packing as part of her job within the local store.

The AY programme consisted of a gospel concert in which various musical groups performed live over time and musical offerings. An offering was taken, proceeds from which provided the Youth Department and the Church Building Fund. Our thanks to Brian Quay, who provided the musical leadership throughout the day.

Scotsman millionas urges return to spiritual values

Scotland is renowned for its castles and ancestral homes, many of which are surrounded by beautiful gardens and picturesque countryside. An outstanding example is the Ochtertyre House on the edge of Crieff.

Members of our church in this region were encouraged to see one of Scotland’s richest inhabitants using his wealth to bring blessing to the community through his support of the ‘Mercy Ships’ charity which brings medical relief to thousands of marginalised citizens in the needy areas of the world.

It was good to explore and discuss God’s purpose for our lives. We were renewed and refreshed by our awareness of the presence of God, our fellowship together, and by the tranquillity of our peaceful surroundings.

John Alfred Seymour (1914-2008) d. 23 March

A red Seymour was born at Brackenbridge, Lincoln, in 1914. He was the second son of Edward Seymour and a remarkable teacher who, besides helping his students to study, was a great example in his personal and spiritual life.

The BUC Women’s Ministries leader, was also able to attend for part of the weekend, and we greatly appreciated her input.

In 1936 Alfred was working at Bracebridge, Lincoln, in 1914. He was the second son of Edward Seymour and a remarkable teacher who, besides helping his students to study, was a great example in his personal and spiritual life.

Being a faithful Christian doesn’t mean that we can’t also make a positive impact on the people we work with, as well as a successful contribution to the aims of the companies we work for.

When Rodney visited Alfred in hospital after his fall, Alfred would say, ‘When the thief on the Cross appealed to Jesus, he was not tested on points of doctrine!’ Nevertheless, his spirit was not broken by the ‘Little Horn’. As with everything else Alfred said, there was not an ounce of malice, and there was a twinkle in his eye.

In 1986 his ‘little joke for Brother Seymour’ was family centred, and featured a free taxi service for Elder Rodney and his grandchildren. The first grandchild was born in 1986 and in 2004 and two in 2006. These children had celebrated their Golden Wedding. By 1992 they had two more grandchildren. In 1992 the Seymour family moved into sheltered accommodation.

Megan Rees (1914-2008) d. 4 April

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The preacher was talking about how we communicate on the day that Marie Steward stood up in front of the Darlington church and said, ‘Yes, he did do for me what I needed.’ Marie, who works for Sainsbury’s in Darlington, had arranged the bag packing as part of her job within the local store.

A number of faithful members turned up bright and early on the Sunday morning, and after a prayer and a health and safety talk, found themselves packing hundreds of bags throughout the day. This work of raising money and perhaps spread a little happiness in hard-pressed shoppers’ lives.

The result of the gathering, in colour, appeared in the local paper at the same time as our collectors were working their way through the streets of Darlington. It was felt that this was a fitting way to repay us as we went from door to door!

Another recent venture was a musical programme in the grounds of the estate which was attended by 800 guests. The programme included a decision as to the name of his future son. He married Nancy at St Brookfield Church in 1947.

Alfred’s subsequent war service saw him in several countries, including to Archangels, serving on the fleet flagship and visiting Bombar, Minihy, the Fleet Lord Louis Mountbatten. In the course of this naval service he worked on ships on which he served, among them the Hurricane, U-boat torpedoes, and aerial bombard-ment. At the end of his days Alfred described his work as a naval officer, and a valued member of the staff. There was a twinkle in his eye.

Alfred was born in 1914 and, after training as an engineer, he had himself employed fitting out schools in the impressive post-war education programme. As a teacher he continued to study, and to receive formal training in the needs of children.

Several women from parts of Wales were joined by ladies from the north of England. These women from several parts of Wales were joined by ladies from the north of England. These women, who were part of the Welsh Mission Women’s Ministries, were just as enthusiastic about the matter, and we greatly appreciated her input.

Alfred passed his scholarship exam in 1926 and went to St Andrews School, Lincoln, where he developed his interest in modern languages. He remained at school until 1930, when he was awarded a scholarship to attend Jesus College, Cambridge. In 1930, Alfred married Margaret Smith, and they moved to Cambridgeshire, where he continued his studies.

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There was a good-by-product from one of his students at the end of his career who had a job to make sure that the name of Sainsbury’s appears in the local paper. Our bag-pack has helped Marie achieve the goals that have been set for her by her manager – yet another article about Sainsbury’s in the Darlington and Stockton Times.

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Web L.I.V.E.

On Sunday 13 April Youth leaders from around the South England Conference (SEC) gathered at London’s Advent Centre for the eagerly awaited launch of the Youth department’s brand new website.

Pastor Colin Stewart, SEC Youth director, welcomed the seventy youth leaders and challenged them to do something great for God, emphasizing that we are living in exciting times. Pastor Eddie Hyslop, SEC Associate youth director, introduced the cutting-edge website to the waiting crowd, stating that the Youth department wanted to reach young people both inside and outside the Church, and that this medium would be a place to which our young people could direct their friends.

The web design team, Neal Ahwan and Alan Murungi of Fluidlight design, stated: “This site was a joy to work with as it is a site with a difference. It was a challenge to meet all the stipulated requirements that came from the SEC Youth department, but it all came together in the end.” Some of the features on the website are an online payment system, a podcast and video system regularly updated and available for download, an online chat room where there will be a chance to interact not only with other young people but to dialogue with the Youth leadership team of the SEC.

One person stated that the website is “ logarithm urban and upbeat, with a feel for the real and a real feeling for evangelism in the twenty-first century.” The web address is www.secyouth.co.uk

Pastor Eddie Hyslop introduced a new youth initiative entitled L.I.V.E. – Living Intentionally Versus Existing. This theme will be used to promote a number of youth programmes this summer, including a Youth March from Trafalgar Square to Kennington Park against guns, knives, and violence, planned for 7 June, when it is hoped to attract 5,000 young people, all wearing their SEC-Youth-department-designed L.I.V.E. T-shirts. The day will culminate with a rally at Kennington Park and a free gospel concert at the Emmanuel Centre.

RICHARD DE LISSER, SEC COMMUNICATION DIRECTOR

Corby church plant

Corby is one of the few places in England where one can still afford to buy a house, and in the last year in particular we have seen people move into the area from London and other parts of the world, notably various African countries and eastern Europe. A new railway station is due to open in December 2008, linking Corby with St Pancras and other stations on that line.

Following a meeting with our president, Pastor Egerton Francis, who gave us some very helpful advice, the Corby Church Plant had its inaugural meeting on Sabbath 10 May at the West Cube Sports Pavilion in Corby. Thirty-seven members and friends attended, as well as twenty-two children. In divine service Pastor Adrian Brome encouraged us not to limit what God could do for us – if we did not expect much, then not much would happen. A fellowship lunch followed the service, at which these present were able to meet informally and evaluate the day, which was considered to have been very successful.

Many of those present have previously been worshipping at Kettering, but for those without their own transport this has been quite difficult. It is our prayer that God will continue to bless this venture, and that many souls may come to know and love Jesus as a result of the witness of this new group.

RICHARD DE LISSER, SEC COMMUNICATION DIRECTOR