As the rain poured down and Newbold Church Centre filled to capacity, Principal David Penner delivered his final public address to the 2008 graduates and their teachers, families, friends and well-wishers.

At the end of July, Dr Penner leaves the College after six years as principal to take up his new post as director of Leadership Initiatives for the School of Public Health at Loma Linda University in California. As speaker for the annual Awards Ceremony, his parting concern was to share his thoughts as a student and teacher of leadership with the 2008 graduates. ‘If you will, at some time, be placed in a position of leadership,’ he said, leadership in this extremely arduous and complex job, his deep love of the Newbold tradition, his enjoyment of student company, and his open door to all comers.

Inevitably, this concluding event of the school year brought reflections on Dr Penner’s own leadership style while carrying out the role of principal. In bidding him farewell, the vice-principal described Dr Penner’s courteous and gentle style of purposes, not your abilities. Don’t be proud about your own humility, but ‘do the needful’. Finally, when everything goes wrong, remember the psalmist’s simple word, “But” as it is used in Psalm 31. ‘For I hear the slander of many, there is terror on every side . . . But I trust in you, O Lord.’ From the local community, the Rector of Binfield, Revd Bill Meyer, and the Mayor of Bracknell Forest Borough Council, Councillor Robert Edger, also participated in the service. Vice-principal Dr Michael Pearson bade a public farewell to Dr Penner, Admissions Officer, Mrs Josee-Marie Penner, and lecturer in History, Dr Nay Toole, all of whom are leaving the College. Pastor Don McFarlane, leader of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in the UK, led in a prayer of dedication for the graduates.

From the 8,000 secular theories of leadership, Dr Penner chose five principles with biblical bases to pass on to the 56 graduates from 31 countries. ‘Forget about trying to be a hero. Don’t worry about your own abilities – God chooses for his 50th anniversary of their graduation in 1958 (see picture on page 8). Pastor Martin Anthony, president of the 1958 Graduation Class and subsequently minister and administrator in the Seventh-day Adventist Church in the British Union Conference, said: ‘This morning’s Graduation Ceremony was a highlight of the weekend for me. I watched the graduates and I thought, “What a super bunch! They are just exactly like we were 50 years ago. What a great heritage!”’

Committed Newboldians
by Helen Pearson, PRO
Pat and Len Eastwood with their daughter Keren Milanovic who graduated with a BS in Behavioural Science. Keren is the third Eastwood child to graduate from Newbold in twelve years. Steven, who graduated in 1996, is now pastor of the San Luis Obispo and Moro Bay churches in California. Kaylene, who graduated in 1998, is now running an accountancy business with her husband in Weimar, Northern California. Keren goes on from Newbold to study for her PGCE in primary school teaching at Reading University. Pat and Len were themselves students at Newbold in the 60s and are proud of the way their children have all come through by working hard and not running up any debts.
Dietary practice and well-being: is this the conclusion on which brain health and nutrition rest? In a recent conversation with a prominent ... in the 2001 Census an overwhelming majority of respondents declared themselves to be people of faith. Seventy-two percent claimed the key role in planning and executing the major gifts programmes; creating and managing new programmes for the organisation; communicating in writing and in person with individual donors to inform them of ADRA-UK's ... 1.2 million (2001 Census). The provisions of this Act have been used to curtail the work of Christian Unions in a number of universities. At Hull University in 2005 the Christian Union was suspended from the Guild of Students because it was not prepared to allow non-Christians to sit on its Executive Committee. A similar situation occurred at Hull University. The Christian Union was banned at the University of Edinburgh from running a course that was considered offensive to homosexuals. The course, which was called PURE, simply emphasised what the Bible had to say about sexuality. Members of the Lesbian, Gay and Transsexuality Society of the university complained about the course and it had been banned. The reason given for the ban was that the action was necessary to protect free speech. The obvious question is, ‘Free speech for whom?’ What about free speech for Christians? The Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act is another seemingly innocuous piece of legislation that is being used to curtail the freedom of Christians. An ... succeed in their ban, because Open Air Mission wrote to remind them of the religious exemption, which is protected by law. Many, like me, who have been following the provisions of this Act have been used to protect the rights of minority groups. A civilised society is one in which the majority of us believe in Christian values and desire the freedom to live according to our Christian convictions. It is surprising, really, that so few people of faith. Seventy-two percent claimed that it isn’t those who say they believe in God’s sight, but it is those who obey the law who will be declared righteous.” Romans 2:13. It is not those who hear the law who are righteous in God’s sight, but it is those who obey the law who will be declared righteous.” Romans 2:13. It is not those who hear the law who are righteous in God’s sight, but it is those who obey the law who will be declared righteous.” Romans 2:13. It is not those who hear the law who are righteous in God’s sight, but it is those who obey the law who will be declared righteous.” Romans 2:13. It is not those who hear the law who are righteous in God’s sight, but it is those who obey the law who will be declared righteous.” Romans 2:13. It is not those who hear the law who are righteous in God’s sight, but it is those who obey the law who will be declared righteous.” Romans 2:13.
Southall: ‘Third baptism in two months’

On Sabbath 17 May Southall church witnessed nine precious souls take their stand for Jesus. Seven of the candidates were some of the fruits from the Northolt Group and two from the mother church, Southall. The church was packed and all faces were full of joy as everyone sang from their heart. Six members were accepted into fellowship through baptism and three on profession of faith.

It was very much a family affair in many respects, with three siblings – Clifford Fourie, Hazel Fourie and Petronella Fourie – who entered the pool together with tears of joy, and a couple, Albert Tereki who was baptised and Marian Ndlela who was accepted on profession of faith. Emmaculate Musavengana was the only teen to be baptised this time.

A revival that is taking place among the Pathfinders in the NEC is also being felt in Liverpool. Seven Pathfinders have been baptised there in the last eight months. In December 2007, three Pathfinders were baptised, namely, Amanda Ndlovu, Camille Boyce and Michael Kiragu. At the latest Pathfinder baptism on 12 July, four more were baptised: Prichard Sibanda, Chad Boyce, Lindsay Alfred and Grace Ndebu.

Pastor Trevor Thomas, NEC Pathfinder director, was present to immerse the candidates. He spoke of his joy at seeing four young people committing their lives to God. Pastor Ebenzer Daniel from Manchester preached.

Prichard Sibanda was first to be baptised. Prichard is the eldest son of Thembu and Shelly Sibanda. Thembu is the treasurer of the Liverpool Stonecroft church.

Chad Boyce, next in the pool, is the son of the North-west Area Pathfinder co-ordinator Cheryl Boyce and the grandson of the Liverpool Pathfinder director Mrs L. Mason. Lindsay Alfred, along with Chad Boyce, joined the Liverpool church. Lindsay is a member of the Liverpool drum corps. She started out playing the cymbals, moved on to the tenor drum and now plays the snare.

Grace Ndlebo and Prichard Sibanda joined the Liverpool Stonecroft church. Grace was first invited to church by Fiona and Flora Koger. Grace plans to study to become a pharmacist, and hopes one day to return to her Kenyan homeland to open an orphanage.

The Liverpool church was full to overflowing, with family members, friends and Pathfinders and their leaders from all over the Conference. Pastor Samy Jones

The reason why there is a problem is because we are not ready to move on...

Unconditional forgiveness for a Christian should make sense, but how is it achieved? Does it mean amnesia? Does it remove the hurt done?

Firstly, we must understand that forgiveness is dynamic; it results from a personal choice. It is a costly word at the core of Christianity. Heaven will be filled with people who have learned to forgive. As individuals, we must review our feelings towards the person who has caused us pain and rediscover their humanity. Secondly, surrender. Surrender our right to get even. When we forgive, two things happen: 1) We release the person to a higher court, whose Judge is God who will deal now with the person; 2) Then God lifts the hurt in the cabinet located at the back of our mind and we experience relief and rest.
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Thanks to Calvary

Not before time the government has instigated a Learning Through Play curriculum for Early Years, and children in the Foundation Stage at Newbold School are experiencing a complete new ‘makeover’ to ensure that Play is the important word in this part of their development.

As in all schools, funding for new initiatives is an issue and Newbold School is no exception, but thanks to generous donations received we have been able to redecorate and refurbish the Early Years area of the school completely.

Thanks to an initial response from granVita UK, who sponsored the wonderful voices of the Northampton Male Voice Choir in concert in the Salisbury Hall auditorium, we were able to raise £1,000 towards costs – enough to get us under way. A further donation was given by the Becejac family, enabling us to reach our £3,000 budget for the new equipment.

We are very grateful to our sponsors for providing us with bright new walls and display areas, a wonderful kitchen/creative play area in the ‘home corner’, new tables, storage units, computer centre, wet play and painting equipment, as well as a new cloakroom facility for the children in the room.

A sincere and grateful ‘thank you’ to granVita UK and the Becejac family for understanding our pressing needs and helping us achieve them. We now go forward to installing a new outdoor area for the children, bringing the school facility to a very high standard at this level.

Stanton Close is proud of its young people and this youth-led worship service certainly augurs well for our future.
Calling friends of Coventry Central

To Coventry’s Methodist Central Hall, Warrington Lane, Coventry, CV4 2HA, and celebrate 100 years together.

We would like to thank you for your overwhelming demonstration of heartfelt love and sympathy. A most touching response to the devastating, untimely death of our beloved son David.

Pastor Spearing’s father, Tony, has sent us this thank-you message:

It was with deep sadness that the church family learnt of the untimely and sudden death of Pastor Spearing. Pastor Spearing was a dear friend and a gentle giant. He was a man of great faith who touched the lives of many.

In May Holloway Church Prayer Co-ordinators arranged for the church to participate in Operation Global Prayer Day which was set aside to pray for praying-for-non-Adventist family and friends for opportunities to witness.

Pastor Richard Holder launched our ten days of prayer with the first of ‘Divine Appointment’. On the succeeding nights we were blessed with presentations on the set themes for each night.
50 year alumni* with former staff

The seven representatives of the ‘Class of ’59’ spent a happy Sabbath afternoon reminiscing with four of their former teachers, David Mansfield, Roy Scarr, Frank Wood and John Woodfield and their spouses. Some of the former students had come from Australia and the USA to be present. Telephone messages of greeting and good wishes had been received from another six members of the class who, for various reasons, were unable to be present.

Martin Anthony (president of the 1958 Graduation Class) says, ‘It was a real inspiration to be “back home” again after fifty years. How much we owe to Newbold for providing us with a philosophy of life that has brought us immense encouragement and joy . . . the benefits of a solid start to life that Newbold provided for each of us have been obvious and real.’

Graduates with a British connection

Left to right:
Glenn Prior from Liverpool who graduated with an MA in Theological Studies and is working for the Adventist Discovery Centre in Watford.
Carole Williams from North London who received a Licence in Theology and will go on to complete her MA at Newbold.
Dr Michael Pearson, Vice-principal, Romanian Vicarate Diocese who received an MA in Pastoral Theology and is working as pastor of the Bristol Lodge Causeway, Bath and Croscombe churches.

Frequency change for Hope Channel

Hope Channel satellite broadcasts changed frequency in July. This is due to a re-allocation of frequencies by the owners of the Hotbird Satellite and is beyond the control and wish of Hope Channel Europe. To ensure continuity of programming, you will need to refocus your receiver to 11585 GHz as soon as possible. While each make of receiver will work slightly differently, here is the basic principle for refocusing:

1. Press Menu on handset.
2. Select Installation.
3. Select Satellite Setup (Hotbird 13.0E should already be selected).
4. Select Scan choose Free or FTA (free to air) press OK to scan.
5. After scan is complete, exit menu (save results if prompted).
6. Scroll through saved channels to find Hope Channel and add to favourites.

The re-scan should have picked up the Hope Channel in its new location automatically. This process may vary according to which receiver you have. Please refer to your receiver manual for guidance. A more detailed version of this information, along with an instructional video, is available on the UK-Hope TV website, www.hopetv.org.uk.