Camp Meeting 2009 for the South England Conference (SEC) will be remembered for a number of important things. It would play host to the first Seventh-day Adventist and newly knighted Governor General of Jamaica, Sir Patrick Allen, and his wife Lady Patricia Allen. It would see ten ordained to the gospel ministry. It would witness history in the making as the communion sermon was delivered by SEC’s only female commissioned minister, Pastor Mary Barrett. It would also hear from our own local pastors as they assumed the title of Camp Meeting Speaker for one night only and preached the sermon of their lives. All the services in the main auditorium were streamed live on the Internet with live chat following the evening commitment services, where the night’s speaker would be interviewed live, and viewers could send in their questions for the speaker to answer. There was also Camp Meeting’s own dedicated radio station, Lightfm, broadcasting on the 87.7fm frequency and on the Internet at Lightfm.net. Lightfm inspired campers and community members alike with a mixture of music, comment, information and debate.

The theme for this year’s Camp Meeting was ‘Building up, reaching out’. This was not just confined to the campsite but, because of the special effort to reach beyond our borders through radio and the Internet, half a million minutes of live streaming were watched, and over 6,000 visited the site, including viewers from 55 different countries on all continents with over 2,000 unique viewers. Online radio Lightfm received over 1,907 page visits during Camp Meeting, with 63% unique visitors with a total of 31,275 listener minutes.

SEC president Sam Davis welcomed his fellow travellers to their haven for the week. An impressive welcome in Welsh from local representative Pastor Clyde Moore, and the introduction of the platform party seemed to echo the quiet start. Yet something was different. A different theme song — ‘Ancient Word’ — seemed to capture the mood of the moment as rapturous voices echoed each refrain. Night after night the melody lifted the spirits of all who came to hear commitment speakers...
It is estimated that one in three of the UK population is affected by allergies at some point in life.

**Common allergy symptoms:** Itchy eyes, ears, nose and roof of mouth, watery eyes, dark circles under eyes, runny nose, pressure in nose and cheek, ear fullness and popping, sneezing, stuffy nose, sore throat, cough, asthma, hives, headaches, fatigue, irritability and depression.

**Common treatments for allergies**
- Avoidance of triggers – to eliminate the allergen.
- Medication – Most common medications are antihistamines, decongestants, anti-inflammatory medication, steroids, steroid sprays and drops. These treat the symptoms, not the cause.
- Allergy medications are available over the counter and as injections as well.
- Allergy immunotherapy – regular injections to desensitize.

The April 2009 BBC report on allergies revealed an increasing number of individuals turning to complementary-alternative medicine (CAM) as a treatment option for allergies in order to reduce the unwarranted side effects of conventional medication. However, caution is always advised to prevent contra-indications by alerting health professionals of additional treatments.

One relatively new well-researched alternative treatment for hay fever and asthma is a breathing technique called buteyko. Although reports demonstrate effective results, caution is advised in asthma to not stop taking conventional medication without medical advice.

Additional natural interventions for allergies include: increasing intake of oils, apples, citrus fruits and teas as natural antihistamines; sea water nasal sprays; isolated amino acids and menthol steam inhalers to assist breathing; cold chamomile compress to sooth irritable eyes; herbs like pyrogallol and calendula (anti-inflammatory), chamomile (soothing), non-petroleum gel for soothing and ointments to combat pollen effects, and wrap-around sunglasses to prevent pollen getting into the eyes.

**Allergy checklists**
Practitioners at some allergy clinics develop checklists to look at the potential stressors impacting the immune system. Checklists include: electromagnetic stress from computers and phones, food, household and work chemicals, mercury in teeth, personal care products, pollution (at work or home), mental and emotional factors, water and so on. Using checklists like these, clients are encouraged to observe the reactions to these elements, explore limiting them or analysing alternatives to encourage the reduction of symptoms and enhance well-being.

**Support**
Allergy UK exists to represent the views and needs of people with allergy, food intolerance and chemical sensitivity. The Allergy UK Helpline: 01322 619898 is accessed by numerous allergy suffers on an annual basis. It is estimated that one in three of the UK population is affected by allergies at some point in life.

**Your choices**

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Good health!
Invoking children in your church

Get children on your welcome team
by Karen Hollard, Associate director, Children’s Ministries, SEC

How do the children in your church feel welcomed each week? Do they get ignored by the welcoming team on the door? Do people know their names, what they like to do and what their gifts are? Do they hear ‘Hello!’, ‘Shush!’ and ‘Stop that!’? Do they hear ‘God loves you!’, ‘You are special!’? ‘I like the picture you drew during the sermon – tell me about it’, ‘How can I help you?’

Jesus knew how to welcome children. Read Matthew 18:1-14 and listen to what he says about those who turn children away from God with their harsh words and hurtful behaviour. How can you welcome a little child in your church this week?

Ten ways to involve children in your church’s welcome and blessings

1. Train children as part of your church’s welcoming team. They are often very good at smiling and greeting people and they can easily give out bulletins and Bibles.
2. Children on the welcoming team can greet the other children who come to church. Children may prefer to be welcomed by other children, and they can work with a mentor to write out their words and practise them so that their welcome message is appropriate and clear.
3. Children can visit churches with a senior member of the church and be given the responsibility of welcoming their ‘adopted’ grandparent to church each week, in a personal way. This can be done informally in the time between the services, or the child or older person can meet briefly after the service. It is best practice when a parent or guardian keeps an eye on their own children to make sure they are safe when relating to other church members.
4. Children can help your church deaconesses distribute the flower from the Sabbath arrangements to those in your congregation who will be blessed by them.
5. If your church serves drinks and snacks after a service, two children a week could be involved in helping to pour drinks and collect cups or tidy away afterwards.
6. Station a trained child by the church doors to say goodbye to the children leaving after the service, and to say something encouraging and appreciative to each child.
7. If your church serves drinks and snacks after a service, two children a week could be involved in helping to pour drinks and collect cups or tidy away afterwards.
8. A trained child can be a part of the welcoming team at the opening of the divine service, and invite the church to enter a spirit of worship. They can work with a mentor to write out their words and practise them so that their welcome message is appropriate and clear.

The Year of Evangelism

The Missionary Book of the Year 2009 — He is Coming

The last innings

110,000 gone, 90,000 to go

by Curtis Murphy, Publishing director, BUC

The spiritual declares. ‘Isn’t no grave gonna hold this body down?’ As his birth came on time so, too, his death, and after his death. And his resurrection. After his resurrection he appeared to many. But for some this was still not enough to convince them that he was the risen Lord. Matthew tells us: ‘The eleven students travelled to . . . the mountain, which Jesus had select-ed for them. When they saw him they accepted him as their Lord, but some couldn’t make up their minds. Jesus came over to them and said, ‘Every right to rule in both the spiritual and physical realms has been given to me. As you travel, then, make students of all races and initiate them into the family of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Teach them to live by all that I outlined for you. With you – all the time – until the last innings.’” (Cotton Patch Paraphrase, Clarence Jordan.)

Today, in excess of 63 million people live in the territory of the BUC. Many millions have either not heard or are doubting the promise of Jesus. He said that he would leave us, go and prepare a place for us and then come once again to be with us forever. He said to his followers, ‘Go out and train every-one you meet, far and near, in this way of life, marking them by bap-tism in the treasured name: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.” (The Message.)

Our missionary book for 2009 – He is Coming – gives a clear analysis of the signs of that com-ing. We rejoice that at the time of writing we have now supplied 107,500 copies to our churches, but there is still a work to be done. People need to be made aware of Jesus’ imminent return.

The time is near when he will say, ‘Enough!’ He who is unjust, let him be unjust still; he who is filthy, let him be filthy still, he who is righteous, let him be righteous still, he who is holy, let him be holy still.” (Revelation 22:11.) And that time is not far off. We need to tell everyone in our territory the great news that he’s on his way.

I am encouraging every church to be a part of this evangelistic explosion and make sure that they have ordered their copies of this limited edition, and that church members are giving it to their fami-ly, friends, neighbours and work colleagues.

Sponsored cycle ride to Paris, then to Athens

Craig Shipston is involved in a sponsored cycle ride to Paris and then to Athens. He is one of 16 cyclists who have already raised £12,203 and hope to raise £25,000 – for UNICEF, for ADRA and for Compassion.

If you want to know more, visit https://www.25000spins.com

FEATURE

He is Coming

by Alejandro Bullón

The BUC Missionary Book of the Year Order Form 2009

OFFER

Orders up to 50 copies will be 50p per book + postage and packing.

Orders up to 100 copies will be 50p per book + a free copy for every copy you buy (buy one get one free) + postage and packing.

Orders in excess of 100 copies will be 50p per copy + a free copy for every copy you buy (buy one get one free) + POSTAGE AND PACKING.

‘Soul-wining is what we’re here for,’ says Pastor Murphy.

Send your order to the BUC Publishing Director, The Stanborough Press Ltd, Alma Park, Grantham, Lincolnshire, NG31 9SL. Please make cheques payable to The Stanborough Press Ltd. For further information contact Pastor Curtis Murphy c.murphy@adventist.org.uk.

The BUC Missionary Book of the Year Order Form 2009 Church: ________

Pastor: ________

Quantity required: ________

Cost: 50p per copy plus p&d, depending on the number of copies required.

Amount enclosed: ________

Offer, postage and packing and details:

Orders up to 50 copies will be 50p each + p&d

Orders up to 100 copies will be 50p each – buy 1 get 1 free + p&d

Orders in excess of 100 will be 50p each – buy 1 get 1 free with FREE POSTAGE AND PACKING.

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Proverbs – The treasure hunt
by Bernie and Karen Hoford, directors of Children’s and Family Ministries, SEC

T

ned into the centre of your family’s life, comes the book of Proverbs. It is jam-packed with pearls of common wisdom. It is a book of high-potency vitamins. You might wonder whether a book of so many observations written thousands of years ago is relevant in the hi-tech world of the twenty-first century. But don’t you have a lot more to work with before you realise that this slim guide to happiness is as relevant today as it was in Solomon’s time. As a father you ponder his own life and considers the mistakes he’s made and how he could have been avoided, he devotes several chap-
ters to warning his son about the dangers of sexual temptation and immorality. Maybe a father today could give his son advice about Internet pornography, but the main principles for protecting oneself against the many dangers and extraneous sins are right here in a book written centuries ago.

The book closes with the elegant chapter 33; in praise of women. In many Jewish homes this chapter is still read as a blessing on wives and mothers at the birth of a baby. In a few Sabbaths the verses describe a pic-
ture of exceptional feminine liberation — the woman who cares for her employees, who the run her own business; the one who is skilled with her hands, or grows her own crops; the one who mothers her children well, the one who makes sure her family is warm and well fed; the one who is respected in her community and the one who protects her husband’s reputation. Maybe the chapter was written to eradicate women in general, and not one single amazing super-woman. Maybe it honours the different kinds of lives women lead, even today. You decide.

Sunglassed between the warn-
ings against seductive women and the praise for good women is plenty of practical advice for living the Christian life. If you want to know how to get on with people; parent effectively; have a good marriage; run a successful business; be a respected community member; enjoy good physical, emotional and mental health, and live a long, peaceful life with few regrets, then you’ll find many quirky and memorable quotes to inspire you.

The book of Proverbs is also the comedy section of the biblical library. Many how they cooking启动 startling, humorous, cartoon-like images. ‘It’s better to live on the corner of the roof than with a nag-
ging wife.’ Or ‘Like one who seizes a dog by the ears is a passer-by who meddles in a quarrel not his own.’

Derry health expo
by Daniel de Bruyn

What programme is there in the Seventh-day Adventist Church that attracts 100 non-Adventists in a few hours and mobilises over half your church in running it? ‘Health expos is the answer,’ says Dr Bernie and Karen Hoford. The ‘Health Expo’ is a one-day event that allows the whole community to participate. A guitar and Cajun duet by Ashley Brooks and Putri Bahrain was especially memorable with its fast moving finger work. Martyn Matchman, a first-time camper, illustrated the warmth of the concert – and the whole camp – in the way that he introduced his fellow musicians, Eddan Paul and Chris Kidwell, before their group performance. ‘These are not just my mates,’ he said. ‘These are my best mates.’

What memories are left with the generations that have passed through Brecon over the last thirty years or so? The demographics have changed with time, facilities have improved, but the main thing that people remember and come back for is the friendship in a relaxed, Christian atmosphere. Whatever on the edge of church or in the centre of spiritual activity, Brecon is a safe environment to bring your unchurched friends to. With the added bonus of wall-to-wall sunshine, all the campers could camp about was, ‘How could it end so soon? No matter, some will be back for a smaller camp the weekend of 12 September. Many more have already fixed it in their diary for May 2010.

Visit the Follow the Bible webpage: http://www.adventistinfo.org.uk/followthebible

Brecon: Blue skyes and baptisms
by John Surridge and Victor Hubert

The hottest Spring Bank Holiday crowds for a very special Bible, the Brecon Family Camp at Aberfanach Farm in the stunningly beautiful Brecon Beacons. The family event is part of the year’s events and carnivals, but at Sabbath 23 May campers were joined by mem-
bers of the Ystrad Mynach church and friends from across the UK. It was an appropriate weekend to welcome two Welsh youth into the church as camp saw more Welsh youth in attendance than ever before — perhaps partly due to the skilled cajoling efforts of Jane Toll-Baillie and her sister Mollie.

Once again this year they provided nourishing and inexpensive food for Welsh, Danish and Newbolth youth, along with smaller groups from else-
where. Families meanwhile catered for and swapped food with each other. One went home hungry — even those who neglected to prepare sandwiches for the Sunday lunch. One lot that many took up past the waterfalls above the Tal-y-bont on Usk Reservoir.

On Sunday afternoon, a guitar and Cajun duet by Ashley Brooks and Putri Bahrain was especially memorable with its fast moving finger work on the Usk. Becky Omer, also brought the Bible stories to life with a series of dances and dramas. Another newcomer to this camp, Jacobus Heyns, stabbed, ‘I particularly enjoyed Monday’s presentation as the church has chal-
lenge us to be more engaged with others in our community. Our Christian experiences can only real if we interact in a meaningful way with the broader community.

Sunday evening was the tradi-
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Brecon

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tional camp concert. Traditional in its start with the Carmanthens hand bells catching the attention of even the voiceless, then moving through a range of music, drama and stories
Sabbath is a gift from God!

Did you know that the Sabbath day is a special gift from God? The Bible said that God rested on the seventh day after creating the world. God probably didn’t need to rest, but he knew we would need to. After giving us the gifts of light, air, water and sunshine, food and flowers, fish, birds, animals and people, he gave us the gift of a day to enjoy everything he had made. Sabbath is a day for us to enjoy a special time with God and some special time with each other.

- Draw a large present shape on some plain paper and then write on the present all the different gifts that Sabbath gives to you, like rest, time with your family, time to enjoy Creation, and so on. How will you thank God for all the special gifts he’s packed into your Sabbath?

Twinkle, Twinkle, Sabbath Joy!

To make learning this month’s verse really easy, try singing it to the tune of ‘Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star’ and you’ll soon remember it! Singing words helps them to stay in our memories.

If you call the Sabbath a delight... then you will find joy in the Lord (Isaiah 58:13, 14.) Each Sabbath is the birthday of the creation of the world and birthdays are a day of joy. To make a prayer joy card you will need a sheet of card and some coloured paper. Tear up the coloured paper into small pieces. Glue the mosaic-sized pieces on to the card so it spells the word JOY.

Think of someone who makes Sabbath a joyful day for you. Each day of this week pray that God will give them joy. Write on the back of the card to let them know that you prayed for them, and give them the card as a gift.

Sabbath joy prayer activity

(Adapted from Creative Bible Learning Activities for Sabbath School, published by Advent Source)

**Sabbath traditions competition**

Write and tell us about your family’s special Sabbath traditions. The most interesting Sabbath tradition will win a copy of Karen Holford’s book 100 Creative Activities for Sabbath (also available from the ABC). Email your story to children@adventist.org.uk before 31 August 2009. Put your name, age and address on your email so that we know where to send your prize.

**Nuts and raisins!**

One family shares nuts and raisins. Each person tells the story of something good that happened to them in the last week. After each ‘good story everyone eats a raisin to celebrate and they all praise God together. Then each person talks about something hard that they may have to do in the week ahead. After each person speaks, everyone eats a nut (or something else hard) and prays that God will help the person with his or her problem in the next few days.

**Rest days and holidays!**

In the crossword you will find all the things that Carl packed in his case for his holiday. What are they? Which one do you think he will read everyday? The numbers after a clue show you how many letters there are in each word if the answer has two or more words in it.

**Across:**
1. Clothing for swimming 8, 7.
3. Sphere used to play a game. 6.
5. God’s Word to read every day.
8. A device to help you breathe when swimming under water.
10. Soft shirts without collars 1-6.
12. Rubber footwear to wear on the beach or near the pool 4, 5.
14. Worn on the face to protect eyes from strong sunlight.

**Down:**
1. A tool used to dig in the sand.
2. Used for seeing under water.
4. A special book with activities to keep you occupied on the plane 6, 4.
5. A bag to hold essential items when hiking. Worn on your back.
6. A container used to build sand castles.
7. Item made of foam to keep you from drowning when learning to swim.
9. Rubberised footwear worn on feet for underwater swimming.
11. Trousers that are not long.

**Sabbath sums**

Go through **MESSENGER** and count how many times the word Sabbath is written. If you only have the middle pages, then count how many times people say the word Sabbath during the church service. Write the number here.

**Start a new Sabbath tradition**

What Sabbath traditions does your family have? Some families light a special candle at sunset. Other families eat special meals on Friday night and Sabbath. Some Jewish families welcome Sabbath with a party because they’re so happy that it’s Sabbath again, and they don’t have to work!

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**Best Sabbath award!**

Make a certificate for your best Sabbath ever! Design a border to go around the edge of the page and then write:

This certificate was awarded to the Best Sabbath Ever
When was it? Where was it? What did we do? Who was there? Why was it so special?

Show the certificate to your family and talk about the best Sabbaths you’ve had and what you most enjoy doing on Sabbath. What ideas do you have for happy Sabbaths in the future?

**Sabbath joy prayer activity**

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Camp Meeting

such as Pastor Patrick Johnson, senior pastor of Newbold College, Pastor Ian Sweeney, New England Conference president, Pastor Sinisa Horvat, pastor of Basingstoke, Bracknell and Guildford churches, and Pastor Michael Mbui, pastor of Chiswick and Acton churches. The morning prayer and praise service proved itself to be an inspiration for many as testimonies were shared and lives were touched.

The morning devotional speaker was Pastor David Kliewe in the Christian Record Service, a General Conference ministry for the blind headquartered in Lincoln, Nebraska. – less than 50% have a regular Bible study time.

The Family Focus programme was conducted by Drs Alonzo and June Smith who brought to Camp Meeting their wealth of family ministry experience. After beginning with humorously differing recollections of how they first met, the good doctors soon revealed a command of the more serious aspects of marital difficulties. Their in-depth knowledge, drawn from first-hand counselling, ministry, and their multi-disciplinarity of work-related roles, was well supported by the expert research they brought to bear on a fact-filled presentation on marital problems.

The major challenges facing the modern family – and Christians are not immune – were elaborated. Topics included managing money, verbal abuse, pornography and unresolved issues. Coping mechanisms and ways of managing the difficulties were addressed in detail. Indeed, the detail of their presentation was such that it would be a great disservice even to attempt to present an outline here. Fortunately, their books make their wisdom available to a wider audience. It is a wisdom which they apply supported with biblical and inspired references – indeed, the Bible is replete with stories of real people and real relationships that speak to us today. They made it clear that, while our goal in life is to be saved, Satan’s major effort is directed at destroying families. Often the only solution might be to ‘let go and let God’, as Alonzo said, but some expert help from the Smiths and others whom God has called to family ministry will also go a long way.

Youth and teens

In the teens’ programme Pastor Roy Ice, chaplain of Pacific Union College, challenged the young people to be sure of their faith and come closer to God. One of the things emphasized by the speakers – and equally by teens in their testimonies – was how they all felt so inspired and touched at Camp Meeting but that when they returned home they felt let down.

Pastor Tim Gillespie from Loma Linda University church spoke to the young adults about doing things differently. He challenged the youth to become faith builders and not settle for the norm or the status quo!

The Bible study hour was conducted by Dr Pedrito Maynard-Reid from Walla Walla University. He spoke with passion, energy, humour and candour and challenged us to study the Bible, reminding us that we are in an age where Adventists don’t study for themselves anymore – getting connected with people in the community, the united approach of the clergy in the district, and the open sharing of resources.

Preachers for this event were Dr Alonzo Smith, director of Family Life and Communication at the General Conference. Dr Pedrito Maynard-Reid, Communications coordinator for the SEC, and Pastor Kirk Thomas, a dynamic evangelist who currently pastors the Willemsen church. Tribute was given to Pastor George Davy and ordained minister, Pastor Samuel Nga, for their co-operation and hard work in the delivery of this soul-winning mission.

There are now over thirty-four church plants around the SEC. The DVD that concluded this session highlighted the work in Dunstable; the Kidz zone in West London, London Live in Regent Street and Notting Hill; Messy Church in a Life Development Centre in Bournemouth, recent baptisms in St Austell and The Church (Enfield). The Living Room in South London and The Watering Hole in Southampton, who have made 300 contacts in the community.

Inagathering awards

Inagathering is a major event in the SEC. The success of the members and churches in collecting over £300,000 is down to the hard work of the members by Pastor Bert Smit, who said, ‘This is helping people in need. As Christians, we have an obligation to those in need. Thanks so much.’

Divine worship

A 150+ Zimbabwean choir graced the platform and sang ‘The Battle Hymn of the Republic’. This was a precursor to the arrival of His Excellency, the Governor General of Jamaica, Sir Patrick Allen, and his wife Lady Patricia Allen, who was appointed on 26 February and knighted on Friday 12 June at Buckingham Palace. Prior to his appointment, he was president of the West Indies Union. His Excellency is an ordained minister of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. He holds an MA in Theology and a PhD in Education from Andrews University. Lady Patricia Allen is a trained teacher and nurse.

Introducing the Governor of Jamaica was the BUC president, Pastor Don McFarlane, who opened his greetings to the members by stating how pleased he was to be at Camp Meeting and how blest he felt by the spiritual atmosphere.

Greetings were then given by His Excellency who assured the worshippers that ‘it doesn’t matter where you serve, your life has to reflect Jesus Christ’.

Reflecting Jesus Christ was the underlying theme of the SEC president’s sermon. Pastor Sam Davis began his discourse with a story about Tony Campolo, a well-
Adventurer Camporee is all about heroes

It’s early morning and the sun is shining. It’s only 5am but it appears that most of the campsite is awake. Some, of course, never went to sleep. The place is the Welsiey Scout Campsite in north Nottinghamshire. The occasion is the 2009 NEC Adventurer Camporee. The heroes are all over the place. Adult helpers assisting young children to wash, the club leaders meeting with Pastor Thomas in the marquee to plan the programme for the day. Back in camp counsellors are strict on hygiene and in some cases are soaping off one or two home-sick children – and all before 7am. A change in pace is signalled by the drums – one big bass drum and what sounds like half a dozen rapidly beaten snare drums. The clubs gather, the whole site stirs to the sound of the call to morning watch – on the Sunday morning taken by the children from GBK Wolverhampton. Child participation is the theme for the Camporee. The children pray, the children sing, the children do the Scripture readings. One of the campers, Jacob, is willingly pressed into service by Pastor Royston to play the lead role as the story of Jacob is lived out in front of the children. Royston Smith in front of children is a very different person from the Royston preparing to speak in the rear of the tent. He has the children eating from the palms of his hands with questions, activities, responses and calls. There isn’t an eye wani- dering the walls of the tent – for all eyes are on Royston and the Word of God. The children are learning and promising that they are not going to give away their birthright and that they will use their gifts for God. Humour? The Pathfinder leader after the Sabbath afternoon walk made the comment, ‘The walk was wonderful, but I didn’t know I had to bring the children back’. Or the child’s response, ‘Well, that was so long it gave me an ulcer’. Age-appropriate worship? The user-friendliness of the Camporee could be measured by the group of children volunteering to pray on the Sunday morning. It was good to hear a group of five Adventurers praying for the family and their friends, for the Camporee and for more good weather.

The Monday morning followed the almost normal pattern. Morning watch, breakfast, worship – but now the addition of the giving of the prizes. All clubs received awards depending on the marks they had gained in the different inspections – Adventurer uniform, Staff uniform, Administration and Camp Inspection. It was eventually Liverpool who gained the gold award – closely fol-lowed by silver for Manchester South and the bronze to Newtown Aston. No competition here – but loud cheers for the winners!

Later that Bank Holiday Monday would see crowds of tired children getting into coaches, cars and minibuses for the trek back home. Many would be tired, asleep before they even left the gates – while the camp staff prepared for a quick turnaround as a fresh lot of campers arrived on site for NEC Pathfinder Camp 2009.

The closing word goes to a Great Brickkiln Street Adventurer who, when asked what he most liked about Adventurer Camporee, replied, ‘No TV!’ That young man has been well and truly brought up.

Newbold reunion

Fifty-fifth reunion at Newbold from 3 to 5 July for Class of 1954. Norman Galley and Peter Read are making rare visits to the UK for this event and hope to meet many old friends. Please come and join us for an interesting weekend or for a day if you were a student in the early ’50s or if you are friends of any of the Class members. For information contact Jean on 01782 625712 or Iris on 01749 672979.

Sabbath School at nursing home

On Saturday 4 April at 10am, one of the Sabbath School classes at the Great Brickkiln Street church, Wolverhampton, organised a mini-programme. It was then transferred to a nursing home in Wolverhampton. The head of the home kindly offered a special hall where the service could be held.

The theme for the morning worship was ‘God’s love, the fabric of life’. On Saturday 4 April at 10am, one of the Sabbath School classes at the Great Brickkiln Street church, Wolverhampton, organised a mini-programme. It was then transferred to a nursing home in Wolverhampton. The head of the home kindly offered a special hall where the service could be held.

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A special day for a special boy!

by Sophia Nichols

Thanks to Starlight Children’s charity, 12-year-old Matthew Nichols’ dream became a reality.

Matthew and his family attended a star-studded gospel concert and awards ceremony organised by Pure Genius Entertainment and UN Base Entertainment at Wembley Arena, London, on 4 May. Thousands of excited gospel music lovers poured into the arena to hear the music of artists such as CeCe Winans, Mary Mary, Kirk Franklin and many more.

Matthew was born with Peter’s A anomaly, a rare genetic disorder. As a result of this condition, Matthew is blind and has learning difficulties. He recently developed an undiagnosed neurological condition which resulted in his having to use a wheelchair to get around. For Matthew, it was a dream come true to attend a gospel concert and to hear some of his favourite artists perform some of his favourite songs.

Music is one of the few pleasures Matthew can truly appreciate and it is also the means by which Matthew has learnt to communicate. Gospel music brings out the broadest smile and enjoyment for him, so to be able to attend this event brought joy to Matthew and his family who witnessed this special occasion.

The icing on the cake for Matthew was to be invited by the organisers to present the Best Gospel Artist award to Kirk Franklin, who showed great humility and understanding as he bent to whisper greetings and thanks to Matthew while receiving the award.

Baptismal joy at Leicester Central

On Sabbath 30 May there was a sense of joy that bubbled continuously throughout the service in which Kerry Louise White and Julian Francis were baptised. There was a special blend of heartfelt praise, which was expressed in congregational singing, led by a praise band from the St Matthews Branch Sabbath School in Leicester. Kerry Louise and Julian explained the journeys they had made which led to their decision to be baptised. Their testimonies revealed a sense of careful consideration and heart-searching, which had enabled them to make their decision to become members of the family of God.

We were very privileged to be able to listen to a range of uplifting music in this service. Antonio Belgrave delivered a very moving saxophone solo entitled As the deer, accompanied by Greg Smith. A beautiful arrangement of ‘We are one in the Spirit’ was performed by an ensemble, including Julian Francis (sax), Antonio Belgrave (sax), Lesleyo Weaver (guitar), Earl Lake (bass guitar) and Greg Smith (piano). In addition, Julian played a soulful saxophone solo accompanied by Lesleyo Weaver (guitar), ‘How great thou art’, dedicating it to Kerry Louise and her family.

West Yorks baptism

The Huddersfield church was full of family and friends of the five individuals who became members of the Huddersfield and Wakefield churches on Sabbath afternoon, 31 January. Huddersfield and Wakefield churches of faith were Sara Shakes and Charles Allen. Sara has recently been elected to serve as the Pathfinder director.

Charles comes from Montserrat. The members of Huddersfield by baptism were Javene Robinson and Duduzile Dlamini. Javene is the daughter of Courtveday and Mavoley Robinson. Duduzile is doing her final year in Psychology at Huddersfield University.

Nicole Farmer was baptised into Christ and became a member of the Wakefield church. Nicole is the daughter of Dr Sam and Geraldene Farmer. Pastor Ian Swail, president and former pastor of the Huddersfield church, spoke of the need of the candidates to maintain their Christian identity in a hostile world.

Through one man’s efforts what will we be inspired to give? ‘Service in Christ’ is an outreach ministry within the Bristol Central church that started out three-and-a-half years ago. The ministry’s aim and objective was to be the home of support for those who are ex-offenders and are alcohol and drug dependent. God gave Sister Rosaline a dream while she was attending the Bethel Prayer Band, founded by Angela Victor. Rosaline believes God told her to ‘tell my people at the Bear Pit that I love them and that I am coming back soon’. God also instructed Rosaline to give 5% of her income to support the ministry, which she has done faithfully. Angela Victor is regularly supported in the ministry, when I reached 24 lengths. I felt ill and just reminded myself why I was doing this swim. I must have realised when I said I would do 100 lengths, be given the strength and focus to carry on for such a worthwhile cause as the church building and my buddy George who will be sadly missed. Through one man’s efforts what will we be inspired to give? Jesus meets the homeless at the Bear Pit by Angela Victor

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The outreach ministry put on a Christmas dinner outside for the homeless. Despite the freezing cold conditions, the spirit of God was there to warm them. A DVD of the event was produced and distributed by Bristol Central church. Thousands of the Discovery leaflet were distributed to shoppers passing by.

As it turned out, for the programme they had chosen one man’s efforts to come through. ‘Service in Christ’ is an outreach ministry within the Bristol Central church that started out three-and-a-half years ago. The ministry’s aim and objective was to be the home of support for those who are ex-offenders and are alcohol and drug dependent. God gave Sister Rosaline a dream while she was attending the Bethel Prayer Band, founded by Angela Victor. Rosaline believes God told her to ‘tell my people at the Bear Pit that I love them and that I am coming back soon’. God also instructed Rosaline to give 5% of her income to support the ministry, which she has done faithfully. Angela Victor is regularly supported in the ministry.

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Camp Meeting

known preacher and sociologist, who found himself in a coffee shop at 2.30 in the morning and who, over hearing that it was a prostitute’s birthday the following day, arranged a party for her. The owner of the shop, when he found out that Campole was a minister, seemingly asked him, ‘What kind of church do you attend?’ Campole’s reply: ‘The kind of church that holds birthday parties for prostitutes at 2.30 in the morning.’

Campole relates this story in his book The Kingdom of God is a Party, and ‘Building for the Kingdom’ was the title of Pastor Davis’s sermon. ‘All around we see people trying to build kingdoms,’ he stated, ‘but God has called us to be kingdom builders – building for eternity. While we are building for the kingdom, we have to live as kingdom people who are mission minded,’ he said.

Music during the worship service was delivered by the Zimbabwean choir, Faith Vocal and Sujoya Paul Bullock.

Adult baptism

Eight precious souls were added to the church on Sabbath during the adult baptism in the swimming pool on the site. Prior to their immersion, they were examined by Dr Steve Thomas publicly in front of the adult congregation. They were: Jocelin Asante, London Ghana; Taurai Mandizha, Milton Keynes; Barbara Kutyauripo, Portsmouth; Arthur Tuscan, Romanian Church (entered into fellowship); Jim Otene, Luton; Sharmila Ganda, Maranatha; Leanne Violet Spence, Southampton; Tendai Musyana, Stoke on Trent. These eight candidates were welcomed into the fellowship of the Seventh-day Adventist Church and the membership of their local churches.

Ordination

A packed auditorium, along with internet viewers from around the globe, witnessed the ordination of Pastors Theo Rios, Sorin Petrov, Samuel Ngu, Rafael Luz, Mohan Rao Abadassara, Ile Turley, Harrison Mburensi, Chris Peake, Vincenta Orona and Vasant Varsaba. Accompanied by their wives, each ordinand was given the charge by BUC president, Pastor Don McFarlane, to ‘take up the full duties of an ordained pastor in the UK and throughout the world’. They were reminded that, while the high calling to the ministry was one that demanded respect, it is of utmost importance to remember that they are servants of God and of their members and that servant leadership should be the major focus in their lives.

SEC president Pastor Sam Davis in his opening remarks cited Tim 3, where the apostle Paul advises on the importance of leaders being beyond reproach. Pastor Davis also commented on the high calling and the importance of becoming a minister of Jesus Christ.

In his sermon ‘I see men like trees’, Pastor Des Boldeau referred to Mark chapter 8 where Jesus healed the blind man at Bethsaida. These questions were asked of the ordinands: ‘Who do you see in ministry? What is your vision for the church and families and, finally, what do you see?’ As vision can be distorted and become blurred because of mentality and misunderstandings, it is most important to prioritise. Becoming a worldly individual can also blur the vision and at times it may be necessary to ‘put the brakes on in order to be effective in ministry’.

In support of the newly ordained ministers’ wives, all current ministers’ wives were called to the platform by Rowena Davis (wife of the SEC president), who shared words of encouragement and challenged them with their roles as wives to those who have been called to serve.

Ministers’ wives have an extraordinary task as they support their husbands and each was reminded of the need to be dedicated. ‘Wives, it is a big task but we serve a big God’, were her parting sentiments.

The evening concluded with a wonderful musical concert celebrating the diversity of our Conference and the bringing together of the many gifts that we can all enjoy.

Building up, reaching out . . . wherever you are!

Thanksgiving service

The celebration will commence with a worship and redemption service at the school on Saturday 4 July at 10.30am to 12 noon.

School Fair

On Sunday 5 July, 11am to 4pm, there will be a Summer Fair featuring displays of the past and a school showcase of current activities. The fair will feature Stanborough pupil talent and achievements, arts and crafts stalls, international food, and a wide variety of events for visitors, parents, and the whole community.

If you would like a stall, call 01923 673291

New Book of the Week

Origins accidents or design? (with free DVD)

by Colin Mitchell

The purpose of this book is first to show the profound way in which the theory of evolution has affected our world-view, and then to present scientific and religious data which shows its fallacies.

Origins: accident or design?
makes the arguments for Creation/ Intelligent Design accessible to a wide readership.

Contact ABC Sales on 01476 539990 to purchase your copy at £6.95 plus P&P.