Newbold award ceremony

by Anita Kelman

Photos: Asun Olivan

Colourful costumes, scorching sun and the rhythmic beating of the steel pan – no, this was not a Caribbean holiday but a welcome to Newbold College’s annual awards ceremony, held on 11 July at the Newbold Church Centre. Cheered on by family and friends, forty-eight names were called to signify academic achievement and the start of life’s next adventure.

Despite a humble childhood in rural Kenya, solicitor Ronald Onyango rose above hardship to forge a career in law. Through the Riana Development Network, he now works to empower disadvantaged people in his homeland in their climb out of poverty. As guest speaker, he in turn challenged Newbold graduates to serve the Lord, be proud and contribute to strengthening their respective communities through sacrifice and service.

So what next for the class of 2010?

Maureen Rock is an enthusiastic, divinely inspired woman with a personal motto of ‘Not my will, but yours, O Lord’. Fresh with her Bachelor of Divinity (Hons) degree in hand, Maureen will head to the South England Conference to take up her new role as an intern pastor. Her previous experience in West Bletchley Community church, as an elder and church-planter, led her to theological studies through the ‘Newbold in the City’ programme.

Sensing a call to ministry, Maureen moved her family to Newbold College to acquire deeper spiritual and biblical knowledge. She plans to continue studying for a Masters in Mission and to use her theological training to serve God’s people in her own country.

Raised in Albania with limited opportunities for higher education, Ram Hadroj’s dream was to study abroad. In his search for God, he joined the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Here he learnt about Newbold College but thought it impossible for Albanians to study in England. After hearing the testimonies of alumni he prayed that God would also provide a way for him to attend Newbold.

Despite the challenges, Ram’s prayer was answered, and he proudly joins the list of Behavioural Sciences graduates. He pays tribute to lecturers Val Bernard and Barbara Abrahamian for his achievement.

Rami reveals, ‘Newbold has changed me. I have to accept every person, no matter who they are and how they behave. I must help them. Now that I have my degree, the traffic light of my life is stuck on green and all doors are open.’

The steel band

Juan Carlos Patrick

Maureen Rock
In Stalin’s USSR you didn’t have to do much to find yourself behind the barbed wire in Siberia. No record survives of what Boris Kornfeld did. All we know is that he was a Jewish doctor who accepted Jesus as the Messiah while he was in the camp. That conversion cost Kornfeld his life. It happened like this: before his conversion he let the savage brutality of the guards to vulnerable prisoners go without comment. After his conversion his conscience obliged him to report their crimes. Having done so, he knew it was only a matter of time before the brutes first got mad, then got even. Despite that, for the first time in his life Kornfeld felt at peace.

Kornfeld wanted to share his story with someone. Still using his surgical skills, Kornfeld found himself alone in the recovery room with a patient following a cancer op. The young patient, groggy from the anaesthetic, heard Kornfeld whisper his story which, in addition to his conversion, included brutal details about life in the camps. The patient fell asleep. When he awoke, he felt a strong desire to hear more of Dr Kornfeld’s story. He asked to see the physician. The nurse who went to find him found him dead. He had been killed by eight brutal blows from a heavy hammer.

Good people are not exempt from the world’s violence. The bloodthirstily do not exempt the good. The difference is that the story of the good does not end with their death. Jesus warned his followers that scourging, trials, death, hatred and persecution could be expected. God is a ‘refuge’, a ‘hiding place’ and a ‘fortress’. The wise man said, ‘Fearing people is a dangerous trap, but trusting the LORD means safety.’ (Proverbs 29:25, NLT.) ‘The means safety.’ (Proverbs 29:25, NLT.) ‘The voices of the recovering cancer patient. Where did you hear the whisper that shook the world?

As things turned out, Boris Kornfeld’s whispered words to the cancer patient in the recovery room — just before Kornfeld was murdered — were the beginning of the end for the whole atheistic, hammer-and-sickle, Soviet regime.

There have been those who used to attribute the collapse of Eastern Communism to a coalition of Ronnie Reagan and Pope John Paul II. Not any longer.

The recovering cancer patient who heard Boris Kornfeld’s whispered story made a total recovery. He recovered not just from cancer, but from the camps. On Stalin’s death he was released. Following his release he wrote books like One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich. In 1973 he published — in the West — the three volumes of The Gulag Archipelago, telling the story of the camps. In 1974 he had the great good fortune to be expelled from the USSR. From exile in Switzerland he became the foremost critic of the Soviet system and its denial of human rights.

Eastern Communism was, in part, brought down by his voice, and the echoes of that voice throughout the world.

The young patient recovering from the cancer op, to whom Kornfeld whispered his story, was called Alexander Solzhenitsyn.

The echoes of Kornfeld’s story, one might argue, brought down the whole system. Kornfeld’s voice still speaks through the writings of Solzhenitsyn.

These days followers of Christ are no longer up against Roman empires or Stalinist regimes. So why is their witness so muted? Do they accept the word of the poet who described the Christian Church as: a vast moth-eaten musical brocade. Created to pretend we never die?

Yes. It is the only unanswerable argument. That’s all Boris Kornfeld did. He whispered his story to his unimpressed audience of one: the recovering cancer patient. God took care of the rest. The whisper spread — and became the mighty shout that demolished strongholds; brought down walls of separation and put despots to flight.

Once more, then: What can separate us from the love of Christ? Paul demanded. Life can’t and death can’t. Angels can’t and demons can’t. Worry can’t. The present can’t and fears for the future can’t.

Nothing can. (Romans 8:31-39.) ‘We know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him.’ (Romans 8:28, emphasis supplied.

In all things? Surely not in the doing-to-death of Boris Kornfeld? Whips, thorns and nails marked the final hours of Jesus, the Author of salvation.
As a conclusion, the understanding of God’s revelation is not always clear. What is the cultural/historical context, too? We no longer have the large number of human sources and the huge quantity of materials. In the context of the Gospels, Jesus is not only a religious figure, but also a human being. The message he conveyed is not only about salvation, but also about the way people should live their lives. The Gospels reveal the importance of love, forgiveness, and compassion, which are crucial for understanding God’s revelation. For instance, the parables of Jesus, such as the parable of the prodigal son and the parable of the good samaritan, teach us the importance of love and forgiveness. The Gospels also reveal Jesus’ teaching on the kingdom of God, which emphasizes the importance of humility, faith, and love. The Gospels are not just a collection of stories, but a living proclamation of Jesus’ message, which continues to shape the lives of believers today.
Camp meeting — Irish Mission style

by David Neal and Victor Hulbert

As we drove through County Clare, travelling to Newmarket-on-Fergus through a mixture of rain and sun, a Shelter in the Time of Storm seemed an apt theme for Irish Mission members, many of whom are currently experiencing job insecurity and unemployment. With double the attendance of last year, the second annual Irish Mission camp meeting (Friday 30 July-Monday 3 August) was held in true Irish style. Not for them the comforts of chalets on a Pontins-like site. This was outdoors and under canvas, but with a great spirit of warmth and camaraderie. Why did avid caravan enthusiasts, Pat Lynane, return for a second time? ‘It’s meeting the people. The worship is very good.’

Pat and Sri Sweeney used the book of Judges to expound on the theme of his Sabbath morning sermon, ‘We need a camp meeting — when can we have one?’ The pastor gave a broad smile and suggested helpfully that since Presthaye, home of the SEC camp meeting, was not too far away across the Irish Sea, the requirement could be met there. But the pastor reflected on this humble request and began to wonder, An Irish Mission camp meeting? Could it be done? How and where? And with what resources — for there isn’t a Pontins or its like on the island of Ireland! At about the same time as the request was made, the issue of how best to use a property was being considered — a property gifted by the Emerald Foundation (USA) with a house and six acres of land. Although the marquee size was increased for this year, it looks as if it will have to expand again for 2011.

So what’s the Irish Mission camp meeting ‘8-factor’? The people of course — young and old, home-grown and new Irish, worshipping, praying, studying and playing together. For one of the ‘new Irish’ it was ‘having time for God away from home’. For her it was important to spend a few days sharing the Word of God, testimonies and the whole country atmosphere. Add to that the strenuous efforts of the pastoral team and their wives, and also the volunteer cooks! What if this annual event catalysed Irish Mission unity, encouraging true revival and reformation? What if the programme continued to be designed in such a way that both home-grown and new Irish members would always identify with it?

Photos and a video report from the event can be found on the website.

VBS at Brixton

The children at the Brixton church were very excited this summer as they were in for a very big treat. For weeks the church had announced that it would be taking as many children as possible to Egypt for one week, from 26-30 July, and that it was going to be free!

As the children were brought to the church by their parents, you could see they were all ready and raring to go. In fact they were going to the upper youth hall that had been dramatically decorated to resemble parts of Egypt, for this was to be Vacation Bible School.

The Education and Sabbath School departments had decided that it was time they ran a programme in the school holidays for our children. Nothing was spared to ensure that they would have an exciting time learning about Joseph. They were able to make baskets, bricks, paintings, headbands and much, much more, as well as visit Joseph when he was in prison and ask him questions about how he got to be there. They were even able to visit Joseph in Pharaoh’s palace after God had elevated him to a high position for his faithfulness throughout all his struggles.

The week was filled with songs and celebrations and the daily average attendance was forty. Our thanks go out to Craig Young and Delrose Green, who, with the help of many volunteers, executed a wonderful programme.
Dear Christian Stars!

Have you noticed how much you enjoy returning to your home, even after the best holiday? It is great to be back in your own bedroom with all your familiar things around you. Now imagine how Abraham might have felt when God asked him to leave his home and worship in a far-off country. God didn’t even give him the name of the place or show him where it was on a map!

Abraham felt sad when he said goodbye to his friends and neighbours, but he was excited too. Travelling with God was always going to be an adventure! (You can read about them in Genesis chapters 12 to 25). Abraham was happy that his family was travelling with him and he looked forward to living in the land God had promised to him and all his children’s children. Did you know that God has promised you a special place, too? Read Revelation 21:1-5 to find out more about it!

Find the mystery word in Abraham’s tent
Start with ‘U’ and use every third letter to find out what Abraham was like.

Make an Abraham puppet
We often think of Abraham as a very old man with grey hair and a long beard. Here is something fun to do:

1. Fold the top of an A4 piece of paper down and around the side, so that you make a cone – glue the top and side together at their edges, so that you can put your hand in the wide end.
2. Cut out and colour two eyes, a mouth and a moustache and glue them in place on one side. Draw the nose above the moustache.
3. Cut 1-inch strips of newspaper and curl them around the marker. Glue the strips on the bag for hair and a beard.

Promises
Read the promises. If the promise was to Abraham, draw a line from the promise to the picture of Abraham. If the promise is to us today, draw a line to us.

- ‘I will make of thee a great nation.’
  Genesis 12:2 (KJV)
- ‘The meek shall inherit the earth.’
  Psalm 37:8-11 (KJV)
- ‘I will write upon him the name of my God.’
  Revelation 3:12 (KJV)
- ‘All the land which you see, I shall give to you.’
  Genesis 13:15 (NKJV)
- ‘I will never leave you.’
  Hebrews 13:5 (NKJV)
- ‘You will be a blessing.’
  Genesis 12:2 (NIV)
- ‘You will be a blessing.’
  Genesis 12:2 (NIV)

‘A moving word search’
Jesus calls us to move from fear, hate, despair, falsehood, war and death to truth, hope, trust, life, peace and love. See how quickly you can find the words in the word search!

Children like stars
God told Abraham he would have as many children as there were stars in the sky. Draw six star shapes on some card and write a promise in each one from the list above. Decorate them with glitter glue or sequins. Glue two lolly sticks together to make a cross. Hang the stars from the sticks with ribbon to make a mobile of promises. You should be able to memorise the promises quickly because they are very short.
He was able to connect with the young people by using his own unique story-based style of preaching, and by relating many of the Bible characters to incidents in his own life. On the last evening of the camporee, after delivering a message featuring Samson, he urged the young people not to allow themselves to be ‘objectified’ but to be leaders for Jesus Christ. He spoke passionately about the need for them to ‘stay connected’ in their spiritual lives and not to ‘lose their energy when they returned to their homes’. ‘Our kids love the worship services,’ said Debbie, club leader from the Kettering church. ‘Every evening they rush here early to sit near the front.’

In addition to the preaching, the twice-daily worship sessions included participation from all the countries within the TED as well as guests from south-east Asia, Russia and the Euro-Africa Division. The Scottish Mission delivered two very powerful drama performances, the second of which, performed on the international evening, depicted salvation in a creative and contemporary way. Prayers and Scripture readings were given in at least two different languages each evening. The most significant of these was on Friday evening when the prayers were said in both Arabic and Hebrew – this coupled with the singing of ‘Shabbat Shalom’ songs to welcome in the Sabbath hours. In fact, no one could really tell when the sun set, because with sunset around 11pm it never got very dark. This continuous light meant that everyone went to bed late even after a full day of activities. The fifty-seven options on offer included an aerial runway, rope climbing, fire-building, a rope bridge, choir, card-making, and canoeing. There were also three camporee activities that everyone took part in. The first was an eight-light-bead swap on Wednesday afternoon. All BUC campers were given eight light-blue beads. The aim of the activity was to swap those light-blue beads with specially coloured or shaped beads from the other countries to make a multi-coloured badge. Pathfinders were then given a ‘Faithbook’ honour if they managed both to collect eight different beads and to have their camporee book stamped by eight different countries. The creation of a mosaic was the second all-camporee group activity. On Sabbath afternoon Pathfinders had to recreate the Pathfinder flag, the Finnish flag and the Dutch flag, representing the current and future venues for the TED Camporee. Every participant was given a coloured sheet of paper with a number that corresponded to a certain position on a grid, and when these were turned over they made the required pattern. This was then photographed from a crane and from a light aircraft.

The final group activity took place on the last day of the camporee when individuals went on a treasure hunt to find ‘CDs of Faith’. This very special event was organised by Christine and Ken Burt and Diana Sinclair, club leaders from the North England Conference. The aim of the game was to find the 7,500 special CDs that were hidden around the campsite. The ‘Faithbook’ CDs were worth four extra CDs. The whole campsite was split into groups of six, each of which was given an appropriate goody bag. The team which collected the most CDs (seeds of faith) was awarded a prize. Faithbook Pathfinder leather memory sticks were awarded to the eighteen people who found the six special ‘Gold CDs of Faith’.

The second part of this activity was for each club to provide a faith sheet to be included in a camporee faithbook. This 400-page leather-bound book was presented to Paul Tompkins, TED Youth director, during the closing ceremony. Every camporee has a market day. This is when clubs from every country sell their wares to others. Several clubs from the United Kingdom ran stalls and the BUC had their own stall. Part of this stall area included ‘the stocks’, where club leaders Paul Tompkins (TED) and Des Boldeau (BUC) were pelted with wet sponges at the bargain price of one euro for two throws. Judging by the water from their clothes, the funds raised from this activity were truly worth it. A total of nearly 10,000 euros was raised and the funds will help to finish a school in Sudan. The closing ceremony was both moving and exciting. One of the highlights was the rendition of a Hallelujah medley by the international camporee choir. Over a hundred people from different nationalities, some of whom did not speak English, came together and performed beautifully, giving a foretaste of Heaven. At the end of the ceremony there was the official handover of the Pathfinder flag from Finland to the Netherlands, where the event will be held in 2014. The BUC director, Des Boldeau, said, ‘I thank God for a successful TED camporee. The UK was the largest group represented there, almost a third of the campers, and I want to pay respect to them for the good behaviour of our young people. I would also like to thank the fifty-seven BUC volunteers who gave up their time to help set up camp and run activities, and to all the club leaders from the United Kingdom.’

Photos from the event can be found on the BUC gallery: www.adventistpictures.org.uk.

I really want to give my life to Jesus. These were the words of a young man from south-east England at the end of the tenth Trans-European Division (TED) camporee in So Kolka, Finland (27 July-3 August). He said: ‘The camp was so good and I so enjoyed the worship.’ Forty-nine young people from the UK also indicated that they wished to be baptised following an appeal by the main speaker, Pastor Bobby Bovell. This was in addition to the nine young people from various countries who were baptised in the lake surrounding the campsite on Sabbath morning.

The theme of the camporee was ‘Faithbook’, and during the week Pastor Bovell spoke about some of the Bible characters from Hebrews 11. The characters chosen were: Abel, Enoch, Noah, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph, Rahab, Gideon, Samson, Samuel and David. Bobby’s emphasis was on how these individuals demonstrated their faith by the lives they lived – recognising both the positive and the negative aspects of their lives.

Faithbook honour at TED Pathfinder camporee

by Catherine Anthony Boldeau
Fundraising concert for children’s hospice

So how did it all begin? It began with an idea to do something, to give something back to the local community. The Adventist church in Preston has always been a church of outreach, so it is hoped that this concert will continue to make the community aware of our presence as a caring, loving and giving church. In addition, I wanted the concert to be a tribute to my parents, both of whom had succumbed to the ravages of cancer, my father on 21 April. So how could we combine the two? By holding a fundraising concert.

I chose to support Derian House, which is a local cancer hospice for children. Who’s to benefit from our fundraising event other than the children and families who need so much support and love at a critical time in their lives? So phone calls were made, and I was pleased when Mark Bunney agreed to participate in the concert as he is a well-renowned, international saxophonist. Other friends also rallied around once they heard what the concert was for, such as Caroline Parrnell (who plays the flute) and ‘Boys for the Lord’ (who sang at the last North England Conference session).

A date has been set for 25 September, to coincide with Mark Bunney being in the UK. Other artists will also be taking part, from Nottingham, Northampton, Manchester and of course our very own Preston, including saxists and groups such as ‘Faith in Action’ and ‘Psalms’.

So if you wish to bring a smile to a child’s face, please make an effort to attend this concert for a worthwhile cause. Preston church, 7.30pm – Tickets £10

CAROL BRYANT

For such a time as this

Special guests at Ghanaian Adventist gathering urge Ghanaians to embrace a distinctive role in the UK Church

by Nana Sifa Twum

The director of the Ministerial Association of the South England Conference, Dr Emmanuel Osei, has reiterated that immigrant members of the Church are in the UK for a special purpose. Churches composed primarily of immigrants therefore have a special role to play in the propagation of the Gospel in England. God has a divine plan and purpose for his children of every age, whatever challenges they may face.

Making a difference

Dr Osei was addressing a gathering of members from the Ghanaian Adventist churches in the UK as they assembled in London. Over a thousand members of the church from across the country gathered for their annual day of fellowship under the theme, ‘Making a difference.’

Dr Osei said there was a need for the Gospel to reach all nations before the end of time, and that mass migration of people into the UK over the years has been in fulfillment of this great commission. The Ministerial Association secretary recalled the mass migration from the Caribbean to the UK and observed that the Church has benefited from the migrations because they have provided a sound base for the Church in the UK today. He also noted that the Ghanaian churches have had a similar effect. He called on them not to relent in their efforts but rather to go all-out to reach the unreached and maximise the opportunities they have for spreading the Gospel. He praised the Ghanaian churches for their unity and for their zeal in the work of God, as evidenced by the opening of seven more Ghanaian churches in the conference.

Youth challenges

Ghana’s high commissioner to the UK, Professor Kwaku Danso Boafo, who was the guest of honour, said the Ghanaian churches need to collaborate with other religious and social groups in the UK to ensure a bright and useful future. He said it was worrying to hear news that Ghanaian youth had been both involved in and victims of youth crimes in the UK. The high commissioner noted that most of the negative youth behaviour, some of which results in the loss of youthful lives, is the outcome of a lack of support, love and proper care at home. According to the Ghanaian envoy, since the church is made up of family units (among which our youth should feel included) our families should make pragmatic efforts to bring our youth up well, training them to avoid irresponsible behaviour.

He acknowledged the hard work which the majority of Ghanaian youth in the UK put in to ensure a fruitful future for themselves and for the country, saying: ‘Some of our men and women have reached enviable positions in various parts of the world.’

He said, ‘The good old Book says if you have one hundred sheep and one gets lost you will have to leave the ninety-nine and look for the one.’ To this end the high commissioner announced that the Ghana Mission in the UK is organising a national youth forum primarily to discuss the problem and find solutions to it. ‘We will need your prayers and assistance in this direction,’ he added. ‘We should continue to produce more of the Kofi Annans and Paul Boatengs for our dear nation, and this to a large extent will depend on what the church and families will do for the youth of today, who apparently are the future of Ghana.’ He made reference to the three Ghanaians who, by virtue of hard work and dedication, have been elected as members of the UK parliament in the country’s last general election, noting that ‘this is what our youth should emulate and they can effectively do this with the support of all of us.’

A special people

In his sermon, a former head of the Southern African-Indian Ocean Division of the church, Pastor J. J. Nortey, called on the members to strive hard to make a difference in the country they find themselves. He reminded them of the need to keep their identity, both as Ghanaians and as Ghanaians who will be ready at all times to defend their cause. He was of the view that true Christians create an ‘affirmative difference’ in society. Using Scripture from the Gospel of John, Pastor Nortey described the woman at the well, a Samaritan woman, as an assertive individual who brought change to the entire Samaritan community.

Change, according to him, could be effected wherever and whenever one finds oneself, regardless of the circumstances. He therefore called on those gathered to effect changes in their workplaces, communities and families by way of lifting high both the flag of Ghana and the banner of Jesus. He observed that the world today needs people who can affect change and make a difference, adding that people who can make such a difference are also different from ordinary people. ‘People with a different attitude towards their nation, a different passion for their community, a different character to be emulated by others, a different zeal to face the challenges of the world and a different mindset to change things that need to be changed are the people the world needs today.’

Objectives

The chairman of the Ghanaian Adventist Church in the UK, Pastor Fergus Oweisu Boateng, reiterated that the objective of the Church is to bring together all Ghanaian Adventists in the UK to fellowship as one people.

He noted that the establishment of Ghanaian churches has paved the way for all Ghanaian Adventists who would otherwise easily have lost their faith. Currently there are eight Ghanaian Adventist churches in the UK.
Shania Charles was nominated Wonderland fun-fair and ice rink in London's Hyde Park, then ate a pizza-meal and strolled around the West End of London to view the Christmas lights display.

...and it was astonishing to see how many of them there were at St Hilda's for the funeral on 22 July. It was conducted by ... assisted by Pastor Paul Haworth (now a Conference leader but, in the early ‘70s, one of the youth Mansel ‘took to camp’)."

Edith Gertrude Card 1922-2010 6.14 May

Edith was born the second of seven children. Her father was a steam engineer who had come to work in Australia, and she was the eldest of all of whom something would not be possible in today’s health and safety culture. When Australia War Work started, Edith enlisted in the National Service as a pump instructor. She trained for an exciting role as a dispatcher in the fire services, and met her husband, William Card, who became a good friend. Edith was then transferred to switchboard operations because as a pump instructor the machines she had not yet mastered. Her new job proved more inspiring for the firemen than for her, and this led her to exchange her from the fire service. In 1958, she qualified as a nurse and opened a small children’s ward in a London hospital.

Edith was then offered a job in the catering section of the Army base in Malaysia. She was involved in the catering with William Card, who became a very good friend. Edith was then transferred to switchboard operations because the machine she had not yet mastered. Her new job proved more inspiring for the firemen than for her, and this led her to exchange her from the fire service. In 1958, she qualified as a nurse and opened a small children’s ward in a London hospital.

Edith was committed a Christian who regularly attended the Newcastle Adventist church, although she would be heavily involved in Baptist church. When she could be found in church, Edith was present at most meetings. She was a faithful member and a key volunteer in her community. Her commitment is clearly seen in this generation.

Edith’s determination and creativity in the face of adversity inspired many at Newcastle University. In memory of her life, and to honour her wish, Pastor Sandy Pairman conducted her funeral service there on 21 May.}

Mansel Jones was born on 5 January 1917 in Comber, South Wales. He was a time of shortages and hardships. Mansel worked as a factory worker until 1939, when he described his mother’s struggle to feed the family. At 14, Mansel, like his father, went down the coal-mines to support the family. He would describe occasions when, down the pit, the coal was left unkept and he was left out at work. In 1944, at the age of 30, Mansel was called to teach at Newbold College in Truro and, after his gain in 1946, the family spent the next five years in the West Indies. The family came back to England in 1950, to give their daughters a secondary education at St Hilda’s School, near Methodist. Mansel secured a job in the church office, and John, a teaching position.

In 1968 John was asked to resume teaching at Newbold College. Mansel found work in the college library in 1968, and moved with Joe and the small Adventist church at Wymondham. Mansel loved Baptists, but when Andrew left to work in one of the churches where he used to work, he left for another church where he was used to working. Andrew arranged from Zimbabwes to teach for Mansel, and the three of them eventually found a larger home in Minor, West of Morgantown. From them, they attended Adventist churches in Wymondham, Mansel Jones was born on 5 January 1917 in Comber, South Wales. It was a time of shorts and hardships. Mansel worked as a factory worker until 1939, when he described his mother’s struggle to feed the family. At 14, Mansel, like his father, went down the coal-mines to support the family. He would describe occasions when, down the pit, the coal was left unkept and he was left out at work. In 1944, at the age of 30, Mansel was called to teach at Newbold College in Truro and, after his gain in 1946, the family spent the next five years in the West Indies. The family came back to England in 1950, to give their daughters a secondary education at St Hilda’s School, near Methodist. Mansel secured a job in the church office, and John, a teaching position.

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Mansel loved Wales, Welsh music and the Welsh language. But he did not love them all. He did not like living in a city, especially in wartime. In 1946, John was called to teach at Newbold College, which had moved to Binfield, Berkshire. Mansel was moved to move back to the country. During these early years in Berkshire, their two daughters, Joni and April, were born.

In 1955 the family left England for Washington DC, where Mansel wanted to take advanced theological studies at the Adventist seminary Mansel found work in the library. He then rejoined his wife, John, and the two of them found a larger home in the theological faculty.

Andrew arranged from Zimbabwes to teach for Mansel, and the three of them eventually found a larger home in Minor, West of Morgantown. From them, they attended Adventist churches in Wymondham. Mansel’s flowers are still blooming and his tomatoes are still ripening but I Gibraltar has

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Mansel Jones (1917-2010) 12 July

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Mansel’s contribution to the Adventist youth camps lasted from the late 1950s to the early ‘70s. Many if not most of those camps took place in his beloved Wales. Some of us can still call Colin Lan in Welsh, though we may not understand it in English.

Mansel was passionate. He was passionate about Doreen and the family. He was passionate about Wales and all aspects of Welsh culture. He was passionate about home, for which he cared, but only if there was a real need. He was passionate about church, but only when there was a real need. He was passionate about church, but only when there was a real need. He was passionate about church, but only when there was a real need.

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Mansel was a good father and a good grandfather. His grandson, John, speaks about the intelligent balance between disciplines and tolerance in his parenting, and of the quality time Grandad spent with him on a daily basis. ‘My Grandad was a family man,’ he says, ‘but there was room in his heart for other special people. These special people were his friends, and these friends were his family.’

Mansel was immensely proud of his children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Mansel loved Wales, Welsh music and the Welsh language. But he did not love them all. He did not like living in a city, especially in wartime. In 1946, John was called to teach at Newbold College, which had moved to Binfield, Berkshire. Mansel was moved to move back to the country. During these early years in Berkshire, their two daughters, Joni and April, were born.

In 1955 the family left England for Washington DC, where Mansel wanted to take advanced theological studies at the Adventist seminary Mansel found work in the library. He then rejoined his wife, John, and the two of them found a larger home in the theological faculty.

Andrew arranged from Zimbabwes to teach for Mansel, and the three of them eventually found a larger home in Minor, West of Morgantown. From them, they attended Adventist churches in Wymondham. Mansel’s flowers are still blooming and his tomatoes are still ripening but I Gibraltar has

Edith’s determination and creativity in the face of adversity inspired many at Newcastle University. In memory of her life, and to honour her wish, Pastor Sandy Pairman conducted her funeral service there on 21 May.