Pastor Don McFarlane casts the BUC vision in an interview with the MESSENGER editor.

Editor: Pastor McFarlane, during your recent BUC committee you made fleeting mention of the Training and Resource Centre that you plan to open here at the head office. Please, share your vision with us.

Pastor McFarlane: I’ll be glad to.

The new building is not just an office in which the BUC staff will work. It is also designed to be a ‘gathering place’ for church employees, leaders and members. We want it to be a busy place, visited each day by leaders and members for different reasons. One of the initiatives that will commence operation shortly will be our Institute of Leadership Training, which is intended primarily for pastors and church elders.

We plan to run two training programmes each month, one for pastors and the other for elders, during which we will address some of the leadership challenges facing our Church. The first will focus on ‘Being a Visionary Leader’. The second will be on worship. We will explore what worship really is, and examine the various elements that make it meaningful.

But that is not all, Julian. In addition to the Institute of Leadership Training, we are dedicating a section of the ground floor to serve as a resource centre. Evangelism, outreach and nurturing resources will be displayed in this centre. Leaders and members, as well as the public, will be free to visit in order to browse or obtain material. The Adventist Book Centre will also be moved from its current location at the far end of the building to an area nearby, thus emphasising the importance of our literature as a resource.

Editor: These are grand plans indeed, and they beg the question: Why are you placing this emphasis on training? Is it really necessary?

Pastor McFarlane: The General Conference has chosen ‘Reach Up, Reach Out, Reach Across’ as the headline for its strategic plan for the next four and a half years. In the Trans-European Division, to which the BUC belongs, we have added ‘Reach In’. By ‘reaching in’, we are placing emphasis on the development of the internal operation of the Church and its wellbeing, the development of spiritual gifts, the use of sound leadership and management principles, and a passion for excellence. We believe that training is required to achieve these goals.

Editor: What type of training will take place here?

Pastor McFarlane: Training will be offered on various aspects of church life. Some areas that we are already considering are: ministering to the bereaved; preparing and delivering inspiring sermons; engaging young people in the life of the Church; and preparing for and conducting an evangelistic series. We also plan to help our leaders and members with topical issues that affect the life of the nation.

Editor: How long will these training sessions be?

Pastor McFarlane: It depends on the nature of the subject being discussed. I can see that two hours might prove adequate for some subjects. In other cases, we might need to spend several hours or even more than one seminar session on a subject.
Winter wellness

UK research indicates that 7.6 million sick days are reported annually to flu. The peak influenza time, winter, lasts from December to March and many succumb to flu, as well as other illnesses such as worsening asthma, sinusitis and pneumonia. Improve your winter health by boosting your immunity to infections. Adequate nutrition plays an important part. Here’s how it works:

• Vitamin A – this is vital for nourishment of the skin, which is the first line of defence for your immune system. Orange foods, such as carrots, pumpkins, sweet potatoes and squash, are all great sources of beta-carotene which is converted quickly in the body to vitamin A.

• Vitamin C – this is essential for normal tissue healing function and wound repair. It increases the production of infection-fighting white blood cells and antibodies. Fresh fruits and vegetables are good sources of vitamin C. However, foods like broccoli, red peppers, tomatoes, papaya, mangoes, kiwis and citrus fruits are especially rich sources.

• Vitamin E – this is essential for the maintenance of body cells and tissue health. It enhances the production of B-cells, the immune cells that produce antibodies that destroy bacteria. This vitamin is rich in vitamin-rich antioxidants that help to maintain optimum performance of the immune system. Rich food sources include avocados, grains, nuts, seeds and vegetable oils.

• Zinc – a deficiency in this mineral can significantly increase your risk of getting infected. Zinc assists white blood cell development and increases the count of infection-fighting T-cells, which are vital in the fight against viruses and foreign bodies. This is particularly important for older adults, who are often deficient in zinc and whose immune system weakens with age: hence their susceptibility to infections. To find out if you are getting enough zinc, ask your doctor.

• Eat more than 1,200 calories each day to build up your immune system.

• Exercise is often referred to as ‘nature’s penicillin’, and is known for its antiviral and antibacterial properties. onions have similar effects, and ginger reduces inflammation.

• Drink about two litres of water each day to flush out toxins.

Additional immune system facts:

• Adequate sleep assists the body in fighting off illness. Research demonstrates that eight hours of sleep rejuvenates body cells.

• Minimise stress: long-term stress weakens your resistance to infection and makes you more vulnerable to colds, flu and other infections.

• Exercise boosts your immunity by increasing the number of cells that fight infection.

• Regular hand-washing prevents the spread of germs.

Good health!

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Vitamin E

When will you launch this initiative?

Julian Assange of WikiLeaks took the decision to publish nearly 400,000 secret US Military logs pertaining to Iraq and almost 90,000 classified military records relating to military strategy in Afghanistan.

What will the consequences of disclosure be?

To be frank, do you believe that publishing the risks of illegal or immoral activity to an end, or just make the perpetrators more careful or openly rebellious? Could it destroy someone’s faith in God? How will it affect the Church in its own life more guilty than they. Men hate the sinner; while they love the sin. Christ hates the sin, but loves the sinner. This will be the spirit of all who follow him. (Desire of Ages, page 452)

Am I telling the right person? Am I willing to speak to the person who can resolve these issues, or am I simply spreading WikiLeaks?

This is usually a pretty good test of whether we are whistle-blowing or just spreading rumours. Am I brave enough to speak to the person at the heart of the problem, or have I been told to repeat my ‘sensitive information’ to those unlikely to contradict or challenge it?

Keep your tongue from evile.

Serve on the many committees and boards that you are a member of a high-level church whom you know: people whom you have trusted and respected! They practised the opposite of what they preached! You feel the hot flush of molten anger.

What will you launch this initiative?

Editor: You sound really enthusiastic about the project, but are there others who share your sentiments?

Pastor McFarlane: Julian, I am really excited about the project but I am not alone in my excitement. My fellow officers, department directors and field leaders are similarly enthused. The idea actually emerged from a two-day planning session that the Union officers and department directors had back in September.

Editor: When will you launch this initiative?

Pastor McFarlane: If all goes well, we will launch the programme on 15 February with a seminar on ‘Being a Visionary Leader’. Danilo Copiz, a former Newbold student and CEO of an international institute for the training of leaders and managers, will present this seminar. Danilo was one of the moving spirits behind the Contemporary Adventist Church in Copenhagen, which is now proving so successful in reaching the Danes.

Our Ministerial department will advertise this event shortly; our plan is for him to address the elders on the evening of 15 February, and the pastors on the following day.

Editor: Pastor McFarlane, I want to thank you and your team for making this happen.

Pastor McFarlane: Thank you for the privilege of sharing this important information with our constituency.

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Richard Johnstone (DVM, MSc, Dip AVN (Mammalian Medicine & Surgery))

Are you an Adventist writer?

When helping others to express their views by writing for the Church, it is important to create a link between new writers and Adventist editors.

To apply, submit an article (max. 400 words) on the theme ‘Faith’ for publication in the Enlarging Horizons, Winter 2010, and also a short personal biographical sketch. If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to contact our editor, Cathy Boldeau at 550576, box 22, 00000 }

WikiLeaks

He who covers a transgression seeks love, but he who repays a multitude of kindnesses, (Proverbs 17:5)

He who covers a transgression seeks love, but he who repays a multitude of kindnesses, (Proverbs 17:5)
Our very own editor, Julian Hibbert, braves the freezing temperatures to see for himself what the ‘Street Pastors’ are all about.

Don't preach to the revellers who spill from the pubs and clubs onto the frozen pavement. They mingle, listen and observe.

Just after we turned into Grantham High Street I got my first taste of street pastoring. One of our sharp-eyed team spotted broken glass on the pavement and began to clean it up with a small brush from her pocket. Someone else produced a bag for the shards and they soon made the pavement safe again.

Another pastor picked a bottle from the curb and pulled a flattened beer can from the ice. John Ferguson wrote down in his notebook: ‘Cleaned up broken glass; picked up one bottle and a can.’

Then we rounded a corner and I saw our ‘congregation’ for the first time. Scores of revellers: predominantly young; predominantly female; predominantly drunk!

‘Interestingly’ dressed girls poured out of a club, swirled around me, and crossed the street to a pub that was already throbbing with people. Five guys in fancy dress sauntered towards me. Two scantily-clad girls walked in the middle of the road conversing coarsely. ‘How are you doing?’

The police were taking a statement from a 25-year-old whose party had just ended in fistfights! His father, wearing a blond wig, gave the street pastors a very slurred description of what had taken place. He needed to talk . . . and they listened.

One of the pastors – the ‘coms’ operator – stepped aside and made a call to the prayer team, telling them of the situation and asking them to pray for this young man and his father. The pastors moved up the street, past other places of revelry, until they found Jude. Jude is a bag-lady cum busker who raises a bit of spare cash by playing outside the pubs on Fridays and Saturdays. She had two blokes busking with her, and the three were frozen still.

Jude is a repeat offender. She lives life on its scary edge. But her plight is also her choice. She is not the kind of person who normally awakens my sympathy! But those four street pastors gathered round her, as they have done so often before, and talked to her as though this was their first meeting. They were caring, non-judgemental and helpful.

She asked for lollipops, then a ‘space’ blanket*, and a plastic bag. She told them about her sore hand, caused by some hooligan who had tried to steal her bag. Would she and her two friends like hot chocolate?

‘Yes, please. With four sugars!’

“Hi, Mr Safety Man!” I have been called a lot of different things during my career, but this was a first. These two young lasses said it as they saw it. They had no flak-jacket or backup squad or paddy wagon nearby. We weren’t going to search or book them – or read them their rights.

They mingled, listen and observe. They are listeners and doers. Their ministry is quiet and discrete. They don’t step in boldly to prevent street brawls. They seldom restrain, and never coerce. They don’t enter pointless arguments with drunk revellers, or try to mediate pavement disputes. They are not a celestial police force or some form of ‘God-squad’!

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redeemed you . . . you are mine . . . you are

How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God?!

How is this well-heeled man being so good to me? Why, she even wondered, is he so interested in the Adventist Church?

If I marry him and the cultural differences become a point of contention?

What if he’s only coming to church to impress you? He’s not religious, he loses interest in religious matters?

What if he abuses my children?

Her children would benefit. Her relationship with them was built on love and trust. Would this man be able to love them? While he thought her two children were great kids, he admitted to wanting at least one of his own.

Times and attitudes were changing, but still . . . when they walked down the street together, everyone would know that the two brown-skinned individuals were not his.

They talked about their dreams. Cheryl had started running and wanted to run for the first time in a long while, felt good about herself. She was a self-made millionaire, unaccustomed to the things her husband could afford. She was in control, in charge of her life, and no longer encumbered women, bother with me?

Eventually, the idea that they might be encouraging their children to transfer all their energies into being the best mother they can be, was still at Stanborough Park. It was still the same Editor, the same magazine and (until fairly recently) every book manuscript. Over a period of twenty-eight years, thirty-two years, in fact – every little detail of her work was still she had started running and wanted to run for the first time in a long while, felt good about herself. She was a self-made millionaire, unaccustomed to the things her husband could afford. She was in control, in charge of her life, and no longer

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• What was Ahab’s response to Ben-Hadad’s boast?

• What did Ahab do after his second victory?

• Who was he fighting at the time? (2 Kings 8)
Happy New Year, Christian Stars!

We cannot think of a better way to begin the New Year than to consider what God the Father means to us. We hope the activities on these pages will help to remind you of the value of his many attributes. What job title would you give God the Father? Find out one of the titles by making a word using these letters.

In Genesis chapters 1 and 2 you can read how God made the world. The most amazing thing he did was to make us like himself. Genesis 1:26, 27 tells us that we are created in his image. Just as you often copy what your mum and dad do, you also copy your Heavenly Parent by being a creator. We might not make worlds, but we can create Lego buildings, draw pictures and make friends. Why not say a prayer right now, thanking God that you were made to enjoy creating too?

God is my banner
God will provide
God heals

Hebrew code
Use the code to help you work out some of the well-known Hebrew names for God. You will find what they mean underneath.

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Lord
God is my banner
God will provide
God with us

Old Testament descriptions of God the Father
Reorder the scrambled letters in each cloud to find a name to describe God. The texts will give you clues if you need help.

God’s beautiful world
The Bible first introduces God to us as the Creator of the world. One of the most important attributes of God is that he can make something out of nothing. Here is a picture to colour. Study it carefully. How many things that God created can you find from:

- the third day?
- the fourth day?
- the fifth day?
- the sixth day?

God’s window
Design a beautiful stained-glass window in the window frame where some of the names of God are depicted. Remember, you found them in the clouds, the wordsearch and the Hebrew code.
news

Retirement and Financial Planning conference

On Sunday 21 November 2010, delegates from around the SEC convened on London’s Advent Centre for the first Retirement and Financial Planning conference of the year, which was a joint presentation by the SEC’s Stewardship department and Pastor Richard De Lisser from Brixton church. The conference was attended by 250 delegates and was a comprehensive and practical series of presentations which covered everything from property and investments to the essential and legal considerations of retirement planning. Pastor Richard De Lisser welcomed the delegates to the conference, which was entitled ‘Setting your House in Order’. The morning’s devotion was led by Pastor Richard Holker, senior pastor at the Holloway church, who challenged the participants to think of this time of recession as a wake-up call, to ensure that each has a will and is planning for the future.

The first presenter was John Bishop, a member of the Chiswick church and a financial advisor, who challenged the delegates to look away from the traditional image of retirement as a move into some sort of old age and financial marginalisation. They were encouraged instead to visualise a diligent plan for financial independence, as it will, in time, impact on things of the heart.

The second presenter was John Bishop’s wife, Sally, a member of the Chiswick church and a financial advisor, whose presentation was entitled ‘Financial Planning for the Next Generation’. Sally was joined by Pastor Richard De Lisser, who shared his experience and advice on the essential part of prudent planning becomes increasingly obvious, as is the importance of starting right now.

Our second presenter was Deborah Harris-Uppomah, president of the London Adventist Credit Union, who first looked at the ways people approach issues of income and expenditure, savings and planning for financial challenges. In her second presentation she also used a quiz to identify each participant’s unique approach and attitude to money.

Using that information, each delegate was then shown a Bible-based, practical method to develop and apply to their individual, specific, finance-related targets. Delegates were finally encouraged to take up the challenge of spreading the word to others for the purpose of sharing their God-given potential.

The delegates left the conference with a wonderful insight into the blessings they received:

- I should be dead by now; this programme was just wonderful! A very rewarding programme!
- I have definitely improved my eating habits.
- CHIP has been very educational. I struggled with my cholesterol for years and CHIP lowered it in five weeks.
- I was not very knowledgeable about my health. My cholesterol and my weight went down. I am now able to wear suits that were stuck in my wardrobe for a long time! Yes, I am happy!
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The third delegate’s presentation covered the story of total dedication, choice and change, and the following selection of comments gives a wonderful insight into the blessings they received:

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On Friday 15 October 2010, Stanborough School students rolled up their sleeves with great excitement to take part in a wide variety of service activities, in celebration of our annual Community Service day. This very special day – which was introduced a few years ago by Kish Poddar – has become one of the most popular events of the year.

On that day, a group of students took brooms and garden forks to plant daffodils on Watford’s Colne River Park, while the musically gifted visited the local old people’s home to share their talent. Others helped to pack bags at supermarkets, wash cars, paint the school fence, ‘recondition’ gardens for local residents and even bake, with no other intention than providing a free, wholehearted service to the community. In return, the community gave an equally wholehearted response. Over twenty bags of clothes were collected for a local charity organisation, and many ‘thank-you’ notes and comments were received from garden owners at the old people’s home and shoppers, Ian Malheer, Watford Borough Council’s development officer, also contacted the school to express his gratitude. In a letter addressed to Kish Poddar, the event organiser, he wrote: ‘On behalf of Watford Borough Council, I would like to thank everyone who came out and made a significant contribution to the enhancement of Watford’s Colne River Park. It was a pleasure to work with such a large, enthusiastic group and I hope you will come back to do some more at a future date!’

Such an accolade speaks volumes about the spirit of the day and why the Community Service Day has become such a popular feature on the school calendar. As St Francis of Assisi famously said, ‘Preach the Gospel. And, if necessary, use words.’ It could be said, without fear of contradiction, that Stanborough School indeed preached the word in action that day.

 следующий

St Austell is a big town, in fact, on most days of the week you could quite easily walk through the town centre and consider it a quiet place, except for the odd busker on a guitar singing his heart out. On 20 November 2010, however, this town in Cornwall became very busy, as it was the day of the St Austell Torch Light Carnival. This was a very different day for LIVE: St Austell, known to some as The St Austell Project. We managed to get in touch with one of the carnival organisers through Misty, who has sadly left us for Australia. The deal was that we could have a stand at the event for free as long as we provided entertainment. LIVE: St Austell has quite a few talented musicians and singers, and so that was no problem for us. November 20 happened to fall on a Sabbath – so what better plan than to fill the entrance to the main street with the sound of praise and worship to the God we represent? We spent four hours singing and meeting people, letting them know we are here for this town and showing a display of music, basketball, surfing, small groups, prayer and church planting.

I really feel that God blessed us that day, and to be praising God on the street on a Sabbath, instead of being cooped up inside, was an awesome experience. People stopped to listen, to chat, and to read the display we set up. Some people clapped in appreciation for the music we were sharing. That day Fore Street, St Austell, Cornwall became church for us.
West Bletchley women’s retreat

This successful event was held from 12 to 14 November 2010 and attended by almost forty women from Bedford, Brston, Hennel Hempstead, Watfod, Blackbourn and Wngham. The group also included some ordinary members. The participants enjoyed the sermons of Ma Ron Meek (intern at Briston Church) and the talks of Shawn Phillips, McDona, Pam Bennett and Frances Allen. The theme ‘Aroned in Christ’ kept the focus on Jesus throughout the weekend and all were deeply blessed by being there.

Obituaries

MARGARET ELIZABETH PARKER (1927-2010) 1 August

On 1 August 2010 the beloved wife of Donald (Don) Parker, Margaret, sadly passed away after an eight-year illness. Margaret bore her illness with great fortitude and grace. She never complained and always looked cheerful. Her last few years were spent at the Bentley House Nursing Home in Atherstone. Don became her full-time carer and this unselfish commitment cemented the bond between the couple.

Margaret was born to Harold Claude and Gladys Parker (nee Goldsmith) in Lowestoft. Her grandfather, Robert William Hoo, who was a coxswain of Lowestoft lifeboats for thirty years (1853-1885), saved more than 300 lives at sea. As a result of Robert’s services to seamen on the high seas, he was awarded two silver medals for his extraordinary skill and bravery as a coxswain.

Robert was a local hero in Lowestoft. He was a man of great stature, strength, tenacity and spirit, and loved the perilsous adventures of the high seas. Margaret’s family moved from Lowestoft to Norwich at the beginning of World War II. She contracted meningitis at the age of eight but made a remarkable recovery. At the age of thirteen, after being introduced by Bob Wells to the Adventist church in Norwich, Margaret was baptised. Even in retirement, she and her husband were heavily involved in leading the developing church.

Sadly, she passed away unexpectedly on 1 September 2010, and her funeral service was held at the Erdington church, which was so packed that the church doors had to be left open. Her children, grandchildren, extended family, nieces, cousins, close friends and the wider community all paid tribute to her Pastor Karinh, Sweeney and Rafferty conducted the service.

Phyllis left behind her children (Michael, Edwin, Ruth and Boy), and her grandchildren (Alana, Luke, Katrina, Sade, Sue, John, Rene, Vautinta, Kereena and Christopher). Her life’s journey has now ended and she will be sorely missed, but we all hope to meet up again on that great resurrection day.

Corrigendum

Mrs Frances Cole, dearly loved member of the Brixton church, passed away on 25 May 2010. Unfortunately, in her obituary which appeared in the Caucasian (1 October 2010), the date of her death was incorrectly given as 2010, and we apologise for this typo. As with all our sleeping saints, we offer her family and friends the comforting knowledge that it will not be long before our Lord comes.

PASTOR ORLANDO HOLDER

PHYLIS VICTORIA BAKER (1957-2010) 1 September

Phyllis was born on 10 December 1957 in the village of Grand Bay, Carriacou. She was one of the nine children of Phyllisha Simon and George McIntosh. At eighteen she came to England, making her home in Huddersfield. She married Emmanuel Baker and they were blessed with four children. Phyllis did her stint in the factories, but she was determined to make more of herself, and through hard work and study she became a state-registered nurse, working mainly with elderly patients. For nearly three decades she served her community, mostly at the nearby St Lake’s Hospital; until she took early retirement to plan for her return to Carriacou, which took place in 1999. Her husband joined her there a little later to enjoy their retirement.

Phyllis was baptised into the Huddersfield church and was a regular attender, serving with distinction in a number of roles, including in the Sabbath School, Pathfinders and Youth Society. Even in retirement, she and her husband were heavily involved in leading the developing church.

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Phyllis was baptised into the Huddersfield church and was a regular attender, serving with distinction in a number of roles, including in the Sabbath School, Pathfinders and Youth Society. Even in retirement, she and her husband were heavily involved in leading the developing church.

Sadl, she passed away unexpectedly on 1 September 2010, and her funeral service was held at the Huddersfield church, which was so packed that the church doors had to be left open. Her children, grandchildren, extended family, nieces, cousins, close friends and the wider community all paid tribute to her Pastor Karinh, Sweeney and Rafferty conducted the service.

Phyllis left behind her children (Michael, Edwin, Ruth and Boy), and her grandchildren (Alana, Luke, Katrina, Sade, Sue, John, Rene, Vautinta, Kereena and Christopher). Her life’s journey has now ended and she will be sorely missed, but we all hope to meet up again on that great resurrection day.

Corrigendum

Mrs Frances Cole, dearly loved member of the Brixton church, passed away on 25 May 2010. Unfortunately, in her obituary which appeared in the Caucasian (1 October 2010), the date of her death was incorrectly given as 2010, and we apologise for this typo. As with all our sleeping saints, we offer her family and friends the comforting knowledge that it will not be long before our Lord comes.

PASTOR ORLANDO HOLDER

PHYLIS VICTORIA BAKER (1957-2010) 1 September

Phyllis was born on 10 December 1957 in the village of Grand Bay, Carriacou. She was one of the nine children of Phyllisha Simon and George McIntosh.

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and finally

ADRA-UK Board chairman Don McFarlane and CEO Bert Smit intervention. bed for the ADRA-promoted land they could use, as a test-plant maize on the one acre of water. Most farmers opted to food on less land, using less help 8,500 farmers grow more intensive training was given to local department of agriculture, Wales. In co-operation with the ties across a region the size of ploughed, in over 179 communi- acres of land mechanically seed were distributed, and 7,887 of fertiliser and 74,844 kg of in January 2010, 1,092,450 kg tion. After the start of the project ADRA-UK to address this situa-

Changes to farmers' lives and the European Commission and changes.

Tiers of poor rainfall and climate people to deal with the effects increase the capacity of rural security programmes that will

months in which people have had months? How is this possible? the food situation is often precar-
ings. One or two missed rains, or the food situation can spell disas-

millet production, can spell disas-

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uous. One or two missed rains, or the food situation can spell disas-

The logistical challenges were

seeds to plant the next season. a surplus to sell and enough could be twenty times higher

than before, providing food, and other projects is available on

our 10% contribution from annual million. ADRA-UK is funding this project (valued at

30% of the funding for

most of the objectives.

More information about this project that will end this August. visited the region to witness the

Europe from the works of ADRA

ADRA-UK's website: http://adra.org.uk

ADRA Ghana accomplished

The logistical challenges were

seeds to plant the next season. a surplus to sell and enough could be twenty times higher

than before, providing food,

ADRA Ghana is working with

ADRA-UK is working, in sev-

eral countries in Africa, on food

sustainability. This special edition includes

Ghana Food Security project

Calendars are available for only £5

Florence Allen at fallen@spsch.org. *For more information please contact

Calendars 2011 are now avail-

able for sale.* Inspired by the school's 70th anniversary, the PTA

2011 calendars

Sundays, 11am-3pm

Saturdays, 5pm-8pm

Advent Centre

30 Newcastle-Upon-Tyne 10am-2pm

30 John Loughborough 10am-2pm

Jan 16

Feb 6

Feb 20

Mar 6

Mar 20

Apr 3

Apr 17

May 1

May 15

Jun 5

Jun 19

Jul 3

Jul 27

Aug 10

Aug 24

Sep 7

Sep 21

Oct 5

Oct 19

Nov 2

Nov 16

Dec 4

Dec 18

2011 Calendars

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