The editor’s personal reflections on his first visit to Belfast, Northern Ireland.

I was there as guest speaker for their day of fellowship – something I had looked forward to. This was my opportunity to get to know the Irish Adventists, and I was not disappointed. These are my reflections...

The Belfast church complex
Firstly, the Belfast church is a place to be proud of. The building has been under renovation by the members (see p.14), and they have a justified sense of pride in their handiwork. They have dispelled the drabness that often clings to older, inner-city churches, creating functional spaces that are bright and welcoming.

A slick affair
Secondly, the programme was a slick affair: things ran to schedule, the audio-visual equipment worked well and the music was great.
In the afternoon the pastor, Adam Keough, and the choir led us through a beautifully planned service that culminated in the testimony and baptism of Alan Austin. This was moving stuff, and the members stayed to enjoy it.

The IAIP
Acronyms seem to flourish among the Irish, and visitors can get confused. For example, just take this list of political parties and affiliates: CLMC (made up of the UVF, UFF/UDA and RHC), DUP, FF, INLA, IRA, IRSM, LVF, PUP, RSF, SDLP, TDM, UDP and UKUP.
Given their passion for acronyms, I have decided to add one more – the IAIP: the Irish Adventist Indoor Picnic! We had one that Sabbath afternoon, and it was a great affair – with no brollies needed. Each family brought food for themselves, with the church also providing a supplement of soup and rolls. The large hall was soon bursting with good aromas and the chatter of warm fellowship. Just the place to introduce people to Adventism!

There are challenges
Listening to David Neal (Mission president) and some of his pastoral team made me aware of the challenges to evangelism in Northern Ireland, one of which warrants a brief comment: the rapid secularisation of Northern Irish society.
This may seem strange in a part of the UK where church attendance is still comparatively high, and where, just sixty years ago: ‘The 1951 census recorded only 221 freethinkers and sixty-four atheists, amounting to 0.02% of the total population.’ But the research goes on to show that by 2005 secularisation had ‘progressed as far in Northern Ireland as anywhere, despite the religious nature of the society’, and it tends to continue: ‘secularists will represent the second or third largest religious group in Northern Ireland society by the time of the next census, in 2011.’

The research suggests that disaffection from politics has been a motivation to reject religion, which supports the fact that, where religious groups align themselves with political parties or policies, they face a loss of support when those policies founder.

An opportunity
Disillusioned people, rejecting their sectarian traditions and thinking independently, also provide an opportunity for evangelism, don’t they? May God give the Irish Mission all the gifts necessary to reach as many as possible.

Slan agus beannacht


**Editorial**

A few years ago my son introduced me to the Darwin Awards. Now let me do the same for you, unless you already know about them.

The official Darwin Awards website lists scores of nominees who have successfully (and tragically) ended their lives through the sheer stupidity of their own actions. Few of these macabre stories bear repeating – especially in a Messenger editorial – but there is one that perfectly illustrates the point I wish to make today.

"Lawn chair Larry"

Lawrence Richard Walters, also known as ‘Lawn chair Larry’, received honourable mention in the Darwin Awards for his escapade on 3 July, 1982, even though he survived.

Walters had always dreamed of flying, but was unable to become a pilot in the United States Air Force because of his poor eyesight. Walters had first thought of using weather balloons to fly at age 12. . . . Twenty years later he decided to do so. His intention was to catch a few helium-filled weather balloons to his lawn chair, cut the anchor, and then float above his backyard at a height of about 30 feet (9.1 m) for several hours. He planned to use a pellet gun to burst balloons to float gently to the ground.

Forty-five eight-foot weather balloons later, Walters had risen swiftly to 15,000 feet, and crossed into the controlled airspace near LA International Airport – leaving at least one air line pilot speechless! There he sat, strapped into his lawn chair, staring at the circling jumbo jets, and too terrified to use his airliner in case he unbalanced himself.

After forty-five minutes of this he burst a few balloons, then accidently dropped the weapon overboard. Slowly,fortunately for Larry, the chair began to descend, until the trailing wires of the burst balloons snagged a pylon ‘causing a blackout in a Long Beach neighbourhood for twenty minutes’. Walters was then able to climb to the ground, straight into the arms of the law and a $1,500 fine!

What was his real crime? What was Larry’s real ‘crime’: breaking civil aviation laws, or causing damage to the electricity supply infrastructure?

I think it was more mundane than that: failure to anticipate the consequences of his hare-brained scheme. And here Larry has company. Far too many of us blunder through life making the same mistake. We act impulsively, with scant regard for the consequences of our words and deeds.

From the word go, we teach our children to anticipate consequences and avoid trouble. Surely this must be one of the commendable core objectives of the socialisation process. And yet, as adults, we don’t always practise what we preach. Like Larry, we don’t always take the time to imagine what could happen next.

**Playing with death**

As a boy, I remember helping my friend Rory take live ammunition apart. Yes, we had acquired some .22 and .32 calibre rounds from somewhere and wanted to see what was inside – what gunpowder looked like. We jammed the brass cartridges in a table vice and pulled out the lead slugs with a pair of pliers!

Our curiosity was satisfied, and we survived any injury, but a few years later one of my acquaintances was not so fortunate. He tried something similar with a detonator and blew part of his hand away!

**Real maturity**

I believe that one of the signs of real maturity is the ability to anticipate the consequences of our words and deeds, and show restraint when they are potentially negative or harmful to others.

Restrain is probably a good synonym for ‘self-control’, and self-control is one of the virtues taught us this virtue.

So, it is important to remember that this self-control, restraint or sense of responsibility is an outcome of grace, not just perspiration or mental pressure! Paul is clear that it is an outcome of grace that brings salvation to all men.

Knowing your body – part 4b

**Digestive health**

Among the disorders that can adversely affect the digestive system are the following: Congenital defects which affect swallowing; inflammatory disorders that affect muscles, nervous tissue and mucous membranes; bacterial and parasitic infections; and benign growths, tumours and cancer. Aliments such as gasproducing food such as most beans, onions, sprouts, nuts, and raisins until the gas subsides, then reintroduce slowly. They are best avoided if you are to attend a social event!

**Constipation**

Constipation: this is the delayed passage of waste through the lower segment of the large intestine, with the subsequent discharge of dry, hard fecal matter. Occasional or temporary constipation can occur as a result of disruption of one’s regular activities, through travel or through changes in one’s eating or eating habits. Regular constipation can be due to poor abdominal musculature or a weak pelvic floor: making it difficult to generate effective pressure for defecation. Poor lifestyle habits related to diet, lack of exercise and stress are also implicated. Ongoing constipation, however, needs investigation to rule out more serious disorders or illnesses.

Here are some factors to consider with regard to diet:

**Intestinal gas**: this consists mostly of swallowed air and the by-products of digestion, which form gas that can become trapped within the abdomen.

**Remedies**

- Chew food adequately and eat slower to reduce the amount of air ingested; reduce your intake of carbonated beverages and whipped foods which contain air bubbles; avoid gas-producing food such as most beans, onions, sprouts, nuts, and raisins until the gas subsides, then reintroduce slowly. They are best avoided if you are to attend a social event!

**Severity of gas**

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**便秘**

便秘：这是大便通过结肠干燥硬粪的延迟排出，随后排出干硬的粪便。偶尔或暂时性便秘可由活动改变、旅行或饮食改变引起。定期便秘可由腹部肌肉无力或骨盆肌肉力弱引起，使其难以产生有效的排便压力。不良的生活习惯导致饮食、缺乏运动和压力也是原因。长期便秘需要调查，以排除更严重的疾病。

**Here are some factors to consider with regard to diet:**

**肠胀气**

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Synergy is a term used often today, especially in the IT industry, but what does it mean? Of all the available definitions, I thought that Wikipedia stated it best: ‘Synergy, in general, may be defined as two or more things functioning together to produce a result not independently obtainable.’

Basically it means just what the Greek root says it does: ‘working together.’ And that is exactly what is happening in the town of Wellingborough, Northamptonshire. Two entities are working together to produce a result not independently obtainable. The local congregation and granoVita UK Ltd have combined forces to facilitate the growth of the Adventist Church, and this is the story in brief.

Poor prospects

A decade ago the Wellingborough congregation was in trouble; membership was declining, the facilities they used at the Quaker centre had only two parking spaces, and worshippers from the area preferred to visit the Northampton and Kettering churches. Eventually there were only six to eight regular members in attendance, and no youth.

granoVita’s offer

GranoVita’s management, aware of the congregation’s plight, invited them to occupy one of their buildings on Sabbaths – rent-free and with ample parking. They were reluctant to accept the offer and the matter lay dormant for a while.

Then, towards the end of 2004, a group of eighteen or so members decided to accept GranoVita’s offer and were formed into a company by the NEC. Just eighteen months later they were organised into a church, and now they have sixty-eight members. In fact, on a good Sabbath attendance rises well above the 100 mark.

Lapsed members have started attending again, there are lots of youth, and the church now has its own Pathfinder club. They have held three baptismal services, two of which were at the church itself, and they have developed a special relationship with a nearby Methodist church, where they preach and hold special music programmes at least twice a year.

A new development

The facilities set aside by granoVita for the Wellingborough church are used exclusively for worship, and the equipment and furnishings are of a high standard. The church, by its own choice, has been paying rent to the company for the past eighteen months.

The latest development between the company and the church is a plan to expand the existing facilities to comfortably seat around 200 members. The façade of the commercial building will not be changed – all the upgrading will take place on the inside (see the accompanying photos for more detail).

The two entities are working closely with the BUC and the Seventh-day Adventist Association to ensure that both are properly protected by a memorandum of association – and, while granoVita will fund the project, the church will increase its rent in order to repay the company within five years. Surely, that is ‘synergy’ personified!

For more information about granoVita UK Ltd, or their parent company, please visit www.granovita.co.uk.
S

Seventh-day Adventists around the world are doing their best to protect the environment. Climate change, global warming and carbon emissions are the daily diet of many news editors. The world’s health and our attention and imaginat-ion: will we have a viable planet in the future or will we be left alone with our children’s future? New space frontiers are being explored and the prophets of doom, death and destruction are right. Back here on Earth, politicians, presidents, pontiffs and prime ministers convene conferences, issue joint declara-tions and targets to stave off the world’s clear disaster, asking us to think globally and act locally. But what organisation is better placed to rise to this challenge than the Seventh-day Adventist Church? Enshrined in our twenty-eight fundamental beliefs is the doctrine of stewardship which outlines the Church’s green agenda: “We are God’s stewards to identify the gifts God has given us, to develop those gifts and to use them for the advancement of God’s Kingdom. Those who, though Christian, find themselves driven by the pursuit of worldly success or the desire for power for a 4:35:8 reality check! Enabling the church as we are driven by higher ideals to greater, more efficient service. We don’t have to worry about doing something great. The challenge is to be good by doing what we can where God has placed us. arists, entrusted by him with talent, abilities and possessions, and the blessing of the earth and its resources, to do all things to bring glory to him for their proper use...” God has placed us on this earth to look after and manage the environment faithfully. Seventh-day Adventists believe that we are to use our gifts and all the many benefits to derive from spending time in God’s creation and doing work with it. God made ‘the heavens, the earth, the sea, and the springs of water’ (Revelation 14:7, NW). Let us enjoy God’s creation, work with it and use it for his glory.

Manage: We are called by Christ to be custodians and caretakers of time, opportunities, abilities, possessions and resources of the earth. These gifts must be managed well, as utilisation will all have to give an account to our Maker!

Energy-efficiency: How many churches have energy-saving light bulbs, solar panels or energy-saving devices or wind turbines? Are we being as energy-efficient as we could be?

Needs assessment: What does your church really need? Upon close inspection, our ‘needs’ are often unrealistically high. In helping the environment, we need to re-evaluate our needs. Its future sustainability depends upon it. How many churches with much help will those with little need?

Temperance: Too much of one thing is not good for anyone. Some may go ‘overboard’ in their approach to saving the planet, but this is just one aspect of our stewardship. We must be balanced and tem-perate in all that we do. Saving our environment is one thing, but saving men and women’s souls (along with our own) is the ultimate objective.

“Dr Richard de Lisser is the steward-ship director for the South England Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.”

South England Conference quadrennial session

The annual quadrennial session of the South England Conference was held at the Pines Park Conference Park (South Staffordshire) on 4th-6th April 2008. Delegates from all churches attended and any changes to the South England Conference Constitution will be considered and have been circulated to delegates.
Hello Christian Stars!

One of the rarest fruits of the Spirit, which we will look at this month, is PATIENCE. Many mistakenly believe some people are simply more patient than others – that it is just the way they are. From the Bible we learn that we cannot be patient just because we want to be that way. Patience is an important trait of God’s character. He alone gives us the gift of patience towards other people or ourselves, or when things go wrong. People who are patient understand that God sees the whole picture. They believe that he is in control. They wait for God to work things out his way and in his time. Most of us are impatient. We want things right now. We don’t want to wait until our birthday (which can be months away) for that promised bike, or that skateboard. Advertisements in magazines and on television tempt us to think that we can and must have things right now. However, many have learned that waiting patiently brings great blessing. How sad it is, then, when we so willingly give up on that blessing!

I like the definition of patience I found on the internet because it is so true: ‘Patience is not a virtue achieved, but a character received.’

**Traffic-light answers to prayer:**

Have you ever prayed in a cave? David did. You can read his prayer in Psalm 142. God had promised that David would be king. That made Saul, the bad king, so angry that he spent years trying to find David to kill him. God gave David the gift of patience to help him wait until Saul died before becoming the rightful king. Fill in the blank spaces next to the traffic lights with these words: NO, WAIT, YES.

Like King David we sometimes need to see that God’s answer to our prayer is a lot like the message of the traffic lights.

**Patient heroes in the Bible:** Match the character to the description.

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**Danny’s disastrous day:**

It was Sunday. Danny was excited. He planned to bake a... , make a loaf of... , and paint a... . Danny liked keeping busy.

First he measured out the ingredients for the... , then he mixed it all together in a large... . He poured the batter into the pan. Then he remembered he had forgotten to turn on the oven. The oven was still cold. But Danny was impatient. ‘I’ll turn on the oven now and just put the cake in the oven. I don’t have time to wait for the oven to warm up.’ Danny popped the cake in the oven.

While the cake was baking, Danny started to paint his... . Danny would give the painting to his grandma for her birthday. He knew hyacinths were Grandma’s favourite flowers. He would paint pink and blue hyacinths in a beautiful vase. The painting was taking a long time and he was beginning to get bored. Danny noticed the paint hadn’t dried properly, but he wanted to finish it quickly. ‘It’s almost dry,’ he said to himself. ‘I’m sure it will be fine.’ He added the green paint. The... did not look that good anymore. He added some more and before long the beautiful painting had become a messy dirty colour. ‘I should have been more patient’, he sighed.

Danny checked the oven. It was beginning to smell nice. He was hopeful. Perhaps the cold oven did not matter after all. Carefully he opened the oven door. The cake was as flat as a biscuit. It was over-cooked on the outside and it was all sloppy in the middle. ‘What, another disaster? I should have been more patient’, he concluded.

Danny realised he had made nothing but a mess so far. Surely he would take extra care when he made the loaf of... . Danny enjoyed kneading the dough until it was a nice spongey ball. He covered it with a clean towel and left it in a warm place to rise. After ten minutes Danny peeped at the dough and thought, ‘It will rise faster if I put it in the oven.’ He watched the loaf rise quickly in the oven. ‘Wow, it looks so cool’, he said. Five minutes later he came to check the oven. What a mess! The dough was bubbling over and falling in bits all over the oven. ‘I’ve done it again. What a disastrous day! Why am I always so impatient?’ he cried.

Have you ever had disastrous days because you were impatient? Now imagine you had been patient. How might the day have turned out had you been patient?

**A fruity text:**

Use the fruit code to work out the special Bible text:

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Five Newcastle young people say ‘I do’

Five young people aged between 12 and 23 said ‘I do’ on 26 March at Newcastle Church: Jan Andrada, Paul Morales, Lorielle Jessica Layson, and siblings Heather and Kliene Sabate took a step which in their eyes solidified their commitment to the Seventh-day Adventist Church. The siblings were baptised by Pastor Sandy Pairman. For Jan, it was a dream come true because he was baptised in his full Pathfinder uniform!

Heather and Kliene Sabate were keen to follow their maternal and paternal grandfathers, who are both Seventh-day Adventist pastors in the Philippines. The oldest of the candidates, Paul Morales, has been searching for the truth for as long as he can remember. The engineering graduate had previously attended other Christian churches, but when he was introduced to the Seventh-day Adventist Church he found warmth, love and encouragement.

The Brixton church conducted a two-week evangelistic series in April, called ‘The Fight For Your Life’, and set out to share the message of salvation, this time with a new focus on the end-time theme. The church distributed leaflets and set up a display at two local supermarkets in an attempt to attract a wider audience.

Each night our hosts Simone Clarke and Petrian Menzies cheerfully guided the proceedings and Halcy-Ann Platt’s feature, ‘Making it Real’, looked at practical ways to overcome trials and temptations. Pastor Scott traced the fight for our lives through God’s plan of salvation and prophecies that show we are living in the end time and looking forward to Jesus’ Second Coming. The Holy Spirit is working in our lives today, and at the end of the series twelve precious souls decided to give their lives to Jesus. Other candidates who answered altar calls are presently doing further study.

The congregation was blessed every night with the voice of singing evangelist Stephanie Johnson, from New York.

All this, said Pastor Williams, is just a precursor of an even bigger campaign planned for August. Join us as we focus on Kingdom business!
Jamaica’s Governor General at Hampstead Church

BUC president, Pastor Don McInturff, former president Pastor Cecil Perry, the Governor General of Jamaica Sir Patrick Allen and his wife, Pathfinders, the London Male Voice Choir, the Millennium Brass Ensemble, and Treena Drysdale all joined the Hampstead church for a Sabbath themed on ‘The Royal Wedding’ on 30 April, swelling the congregation to more than 500. Local minister Humphrey Walters delivered a sermon on Jesus’ parable of the wedding garment. Sir Allen had witnessed to world leaders while attending the wedding, he said, and during the wedding service he was looking forward to worshipping during Sabbath at Hampstead. He is fully capable of discharging his duties as Governor General and remaining a faithful Sabbath-keeping Christian. His passion is to help young people serve others.

The frontier mission walk

The Dundee section of the great mission walk, a sponsored relay hike around many Celtic and Reformation sites taking in all the Scottish Mission churches, was scheduled for Sunday 20 March. Inch by inch it is raising money for mission work among the un reach peoples of Central Asia.

We walked by the newly-restored Morgan Academy (originally erected as a hospital for the less fortunate), and Baxter’s Park, where Mary Shelley (author of Frankenstein) once walked; then Jute Mill and the old site on which stood our Seventh-day Adventist church during the 1950s-70s. It’s now a pleasant public garden with benches, grass, and flowers. Nearby we admired the panoramic view over the River Tay and the once-pristine waterfront.

Soon we arrived at Wishart Arch and Wishart Church, where religious reformer and protestant martyr George Wishart used to preach. Finally we gathered for a prayer under the Tay Bridge, just yards from the site of the forthcoming Victoria & Albert Museum. In spite of the cold, it had been a very rewarding experience. Christianity is still completely unknown to the Turkic peoples of Central Asia.

Please uphold frontier missionaries in prayer; if you would like to sponsor a missionary, contact Pastor Marcel Ghioalda (tel: 01738 850 399; mob: 07814 009 063; email: marcel@sdafoothill.org)

Baby dedication after the Royal Wedding

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ADRA-UK song competition

Poverty affects everyone. It runs individual lives and affects entire communities. To increase awareness of poverty, its causes and its effects, ADRA-UK plans to release a new music video to promote its work.

Young UK musicians are invited to write a new, modern song (with lyrics) that reflects the work that ADRA-UK does. The competition is open to young artists/bands/groups (18-35 years).

More information about this competition is available from the ADRA-UK website. Alternatively, write an email to info@adra.org.uk and we will send you the details.

Asian day of fellowship

Asian Adventists of all ages from across the UK and Europe packed the church in Manchester for their spring gathering during the weekend of 22-23 April. It began with a Friday Vesper Service, taken by Pastor Ashley Kongari from Finland, and continued on Sabbath morning with a well-attended Sabbath School dramatisation of the story of Joseph and his brothers, organised by Sekur Babi. Neeta Raywarduru organised the children’s activities; the Divine Service was organised by Joy Paul, and the preacher for the service was Pastor John Melki, who challenged the congregation to be ready for the Lord’s coming. Prabhia John, Pastor Malcolm and Naomi Watson, Wilfred Masih, John Varghese, Prem Wilson and a number of helpers all helped to make the day a success with food, music and a health seminar.

A recurring question from the attendees was: ‘When is the next meeting like this?’ The answer is: ‘27 August in Watford!’

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Easter agape feast at St Austell
As a change from the usual Easter service, St Austell Seventh-day Adventist Church held an agape feast on 23 April. Tables were arranged in a Celtic cross, and part way through the service hot soup and rolls were served, during which account of the Last Supper was read from the Gospel of Mark. People were also invited to share testimonies.
After reflecting on the meaning of Easter, the service concluded with Communion. The congregation was reminded of just what Jesus has achieved for us.

Love will be our home
While Prince William and Kate Middleton were still preparing for their wedding, nineteenth couples at Newcastle Church decided to go first on 17 April in a ceremony to reaffirm their wedding vows, under the theme: ‘Love Will Be Our Home’.

Arise and shine!
The newly established men’s ministry at London Ghana celebrated their annual Easter party, an event sponsored by the Ashford church and MOAT Housing. No child was turned away, so the hall was packed to capacity. Vita Martin and her team prepared both the hall and the food, and activities included a bungee run and a bouncy castle. Parents and children alike were keen on the bungee run, and all the children were treated to a bag of goodies. The church has now been invited to run a Pathfinders club for the children in Stanhope!

Cords of love in the SEC
The SEC ‘Cords of Love’ marriage retreat took place over 22-24 April at Latimer Place, Buckinghamshire, and was led by Pastor Les Ackie and his wife, Ilma. They provided an opportunity to discuss personal backgrounds, experiences, including history as a couple together, how to build emotional awareness, how forgiveness can build through increased tolerance, and the recognition that character differences can actually enhance the marriage.
It was a time to reflect on Jesus’ words in Mark 10:19 (KJV) –
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Belfast rebuided
The Belfast church has grown so much in recent years that it became necessary to extend the church building to accommodate the growth! The Irish Mission supported this project with a gift of £65,000. More parking spaces are planned.

Zambian Adventists unite
The UK Zambian Adventist Fellowship, launched on 23 October 2010 during a day of fellowship led by Zambian-born Pastor Geoffrey Mapiki, held a second event in London on 30 April.
The arranged venue suddenly became unavailable just two days before the event, so it was decided that God would provide, organisers rapidly secured a nearby alternative venue.
In keeping the previous day’s theme, ‘Wedding, the midnight cry’ was the theme. Zambian-born Pastor Namuchana preached on Matthew 25:1-13 and challenged his 300-strong audience to remember God as Seventh-day Adventists filled by the Holy Spirit in preparation for Christ’s return.
Organisers were pleased to welcome worshippers from Botswana, Zimbabwe, Malawi, Kenya, Tanzania, Ghana, Nigeria, Barbados, New Zealand, St Lucia, and Bulgaria.
After an afternoon musical concert, the interim chairman Brian Marshall presented a brief overview of the organisation’s history together with the possibilities for the future. Anyone wishing to make any suggestions or receive information on future events can get in touch with the secretary on: ukzafcommunications@gmail.com.

Hot or cold?
Visitors augmented the growing congregation of Brighton and Hove for the church’s youth day on Sabbath, 30 April, swelling it to 200 and delighting Pastor Victor Samwanga.
Ramonah Watson and Binnet Gump guided not just a youth day, but an outreach event. Prayer and fasting had prepared members before they invited non-Adventist friends and many local university students who had never visited an Adventist church before, including a Muslim student. The church handed out Christian CDs and literature, including Steps to Christ. He is Coming and the Gospel of Mark.
A young woman, whose message in the main service was ‘Hot or Cold’?
Who Are You?’, encouraged young people to choose between Christ’s and Satan’s kingdoms, and to walk with Jesus.

In the afternoon Michael Danzie held for a renewed commitment to Jesus, and local youth gave inspiring testimonies.
Check out the church website for photos:
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New day dawns in Southport

On 5 March Michael Simpson led a team from the NEC Church Planting department that conducted a four-week ‘Prophecies of Hope’ seminar (extended from four weeks by popular demand). Twenty-one guests attended the opening night, along with twelve Sevent-day Adventist guests from Lorswood Academy based in the US. There were four Pioneer Taskforce volunteers (whose mission it is to conduct evangelistic programmes in unreached areas), along with Val Sutcliffe, who was baptised eighteen months ago.

When the seminars came to a close, nine people requested baptism. On Sabbath 23 March, Matthew, Patricka and Mary were baptised; the first baptism ever held by the church in Southport.

Pastor Michael Simpson, head of the NEC Mission Possible programme and seminar presenter, hopes that Project Southport shows the way for the NEC Church Planting department.

New book of the week
Experiencing the Joy
42 Bible talks

Jam-packed full of Bible discussions, prayers and meditations, this book takes you on a journey through the Bible, in a way that’s approachable and understandable for twenty-first-century readers.

Contact ABC Sales on 01476 539900 to purchase and get 50% off plus p&p, and receive a copy of Christ Triumphant (No. 303) absolutely free!

Live the change at Chapel Porth

While millions of eyes were focused on the Royal Wedding, at Chapel Porth Youth Campsite, LIVE: St Austell and Devon and Cornish youth held their second youth camp, doubling their numbers from last year. Guest speaker for the weekend was Tamar Joyeux, an MA Theology student originally from St Lucia, who is a keen surfer. The theme for the weekend was ‘Making LIVE live’, ‘LIVE’ being an acronym for Living Intentionally Versus Existing.

Two morning talks were given by Victor Hubert, who used his skills as BUC Communication director to share how God’s ‘great expectations’ for us can grow through reading the Bible, praying and fellowshipping. Other activities included basketball, surfing, walking, and a Sunday night concert featuring Philippa Hanna and Roo Walker.

Diana stated, ‘I really enjoyed every single bit of my time there.’ Dan stated, ‘I didn’t know food could taste so good’, while Trina stated, ‘It was awesome, I am truly humbled to have met such nice people!’ Chris, who has only recently met Adventists, was impressed with the whole atmosphere, the worship and the new friends he made.

Photos from the weekend are on the BUC picture gallery, and a BUC News video report featuring Tamar Joyeux (and some good surf) is also available.

See the video report online at: http://www.bucnews.org.uk/content/media-library/media-story/library/buc-news-media-archive/west-country-youth-camp-chapel-porth/