made, and in his discussions our president is challenging every local congregation to ‘take seriously its reason for being.’ According to him the aim of every board and business meeting should be, ‘How do we reach the lost?’

These meetings that he has held are only the start of a process to reach beyond the histories of the past and the challenges of the present, in order to allow God to do something amazing through our communities in this increasingly secularised country.

Pastor Sweeney has promised us a detailed article on ‘Evangelism and Mission in the British Isles’, exploring these ideas more fully in a future edition of Messenger. In the meantime, readers are welcome to comment on this report via his new blog: http://adventistministers-org-uk.adventist.eu/blogs/president/posts/2-revival-reformation-mission.

‘. . . within the 11,000-plus members in the London area, there are probably fewer than 200 who can be described as “white British”!’
by Sharon Platt-McDonald  
RGN, HM, RVH, MSc  
Health Ministries director, BUC  

**Golden eight – part 2b**  
Sunshine – the healer  

More than 150 years ago Ellen G. White wrote about the benefits of sunshine for both the body and the home environment. She states: ‘Whoever sleeps in a sunless room, or occupies a bed that has not been thoroughly dried and aired, does so at the risk of health’ (Ellen G. White, *Ministry of Healing*, p. 275).

She also asserts that: ‘Perfect cleanliness, plenty of sunlight, careful attention to sanitation in every detail of the home life, are essential to freedom from disease and to the cheerfulness and vigour of the inmates of the home.’ (ibid, p. 276).

Today scientists continue to draw our attention to the health benefits of safe levels of sun exposure. Some of the emerging research suggests, however, that, due to previous health reports on the dangers of sun overexposure, people have become frightened of getting skin cancer and so avoid sunshine to the detriment of their health (*Vitamin D News*, 18 October 2011). We must remember that our bodies require natural sunlight to make adequate amounts of vitamin D, giving us strong and healthy bones and supporting the immune system.

### Enhancing Health

In a joint study, scientists from Norway’s Institute for Cancer Research and the US Department of Energy’s Brookhaven National Lab report that the health benefits from exposure to sunshine are enormous, and scarce resources are a legendary (and primary) source of vaccines . . . and housing). And scarce resources are a legendary (and primary) source of conflict!

### October 31

**Reflections**

Some time today as I write this, 31 October (2011), the world’s population should pass the 7 billion mark – that is 7,000,000,000 – according to the United Nations.

Population research tells us that whereas it took ‘all of human history until around 1800’ for the ‘world population to reach one billion, the second billion was achieved in only 130 years (1930), the third billion in less than thirty years (1959), the fourth billion in fifteen years (1974), and the fifth billion in only thirteen years (1987).’ In fact, it is quite sobering to realise that, during the twentieth century alone, the population in the world has grown from 1.65 billion to 6 billion.1

This type of growth is called ‘exponential’, and it is not that easy to understand or visualise. In fact, one scholar put it like this: ‘The greatest shortcoming of the human race is our inability to understand the exponential function’. Now, it might not be our ‘greatest shortcoming’, but do you understand how it works?

### Rice on a chessboard

This legend is often used to illustrate the concept of exponential growth. A courtier presented the Persian king with a beautiful, hand-made chessboard. The king asked what he would like in return for his gift and the courtier surprised the king by asking for one grain of rice on the first square, two grains on the second, four grains on the third, and so on. The king readily agreed and asked for the rice to be brought.

The king thought he was getting a bargain, a magnificent item of craftsmanship for just a few small bags of rice. But he did not understand the concept of exponential growth either: that is, until the office of the exchequer informed him that his request was about to be bankrupted by a ‘chessboard’!

Well, it works like this. A chessboard has just sixty-four squares. But if you apply the square sixty-four you will have 18,446,744,073,709,551,615 grains of rice – a heap larger than Mount Everest and 1,000 times the global production of rice in 2010.2

According to the legend, the king lost his cool, and the courtier lost his head!

So that’s how . . .

So that’s how our human family has grown so fast – exponential growth. But how does that growth make you feel?

*Are you afraid?* Can’t blame you if you are, because over-population leads to scarcity of essential resources (think fuel, food, water, etc).

*Are you disappointed?* We can’t manage to evangelise the present population of the world, and yet there are hundreds of thousands more to contact every week. It feels like mission impossible!

I was ‘gobsmacked’!

Yes, at first I also felt afraid, and disappointed. But then, as I pondered the 7 billion, I was ‘gobsmacked’ by this thought: that even though more than 3 billion people (3,000,000,000) have joined the human family since I gave my life to Jesus, he still makes me feel that he is my friend – just as deeply concerned about the little details of my life as before.

He has nearly double the human trouble he had back then, but he still finds enough time for me. He still infilbrates my thoughts with suggestions about how to live more like him. He still creates a feeling of discomfort within me when I have done something of which he doesn’t approve – and he pesters me until I’ve put it right.

And do you know what? Even though all those billions of extra sinners have joined the queue, I still feel that my salvation is safe and secure, in his good hands!

He is just as concerned about you

Don’t be afraid that you may have been crowded out of God’s heart. He has that ability that my mother had – she made each of her four children feel special at the same time. Each time another member was added to the family, my mother’s heart had the extra capacity for it. But then, God’s capacity to love and care is infinitely greater than hers ever was.

Don’t worry. He is still good for these promises, and always will be.

‘Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.’

*Matthew 11:28*, NIV (emphasis mine).

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. *John 3:16*, NIV (emphasis mine).

It’s good to be reminded that exponential growth cannot curb his love. Neither can a burgeoning population dilute the potency of his saving grace.


**S**}
nurture

A Child’s Communion

by Jacques Venter

children of all ages often feel left out on Communion Sabbaths. Not only can the symbolism often appear to float above their heads, but they may also seem strange – even rigid. As adults we are sometimes at a loss for words when we do the things with children, and we have our questions too about whether they will be welcome at the foot-washing? Are they allowed to take part? Thursday:- open Communion, which simply means that, no matter who you are, you are welcome to take part. With this in mind, our objective should be to help our children understand Communion. I believe we as parents can help our children experience, understand, and value the Communion through a simple pre-Communion or follow-up experience during the week. Its design is to evoke reflection and discussion, and ultimately, as they grow older, understanding. These ideas implemented can provide you with an opportunity for you to help your child reflect on the Communion that is going to take place next Sabbath, or that has just passed. Please ensure that you vary to them your family circumstances.

Sunday: altar

Items: stones, glue, cardboard
First help your children to collect some stones. Read or tell them the story of the Israelites crossing the Jordan River (found in Joshua 3:1-4). Help them build an altar on a piece of cardboard. Explain that every time they crossed the piles of rocks from the River Jordan, they would remember what God had done. Ask what other things God gives people in the Bible to help remember what he has done (for example, the Sabbath and the Passover meal).

Explain Communion to them, as best you can, and why we celebrate it. Ask them if they can think of any things we see daily that can remind us of something God has done for us.

(2006) and White provide excellent background reading for parents.)

Tuesday: open room

Items: paper, colouring pencils
Read to your children the picture of the upper room in Matthew 26:17-30. Help your children draw a picture of Communion as Jesus in the middle of the twelve disciples around the table. Help them draw hands, and each disciple with a plate.

Let them discuss the things Jesus said, and what they mean. Remind them of the Jesus’ ‘bitter’ suffering in Egypt as slaves.

Wednesday: the Communion scene

Items: raisins, big round or star stickers, coloured paper card, macaroni/peanuts, glue
Help your children cut out a rectangular piece of cardboard and stick it on a white piece of paper. This will form the table. Help them stick twelve stickers around the table for the disciples, and a different-coloured one for Jesus in the middle of the table. Help them stick the raisins on the table to represent the juice, and macaroni to represent bread. Use this opportunity to speak to them about the ordinance introduced the first Communion Service – first the bread, and then the juice.

Thursday: the wine

Items: bowl, bag of red grapes, glass
Make sure your children’s hands are clean. Help them squash the grapes so that they will form juice. Drain the juice into a glass bottle, and let them drink it. Use this opportunity to explain to them why we use grape juice and not wine during Communion, so use this opportunity to explain to them the meaning of the symbol that Jesus’ ‘blood’ was shed for our sins, so that we could be saved.

Friday: unleavened bread

Items: raisins, fruit juice, papaya, raisin juice

Take time to help your children make unleavened bread. Here is a recipe:

2 cups whole wheat flour

7 tbsp oil (1/2 cup oil less

1/3 cup water

Whip the oil and water in a blender until the mixture turns white. Immediately add to the mixture of flour and salt, and knead for several minutes until the dough is elastic and ready for rolling. Roll out a thin (1cm) layer evenly directly onto a cookie sheet. Score into 2cm squares and prick each square using a fork or cocktail stick. Bake at 350 degrees for 12-15 minutes. They are done when it becomes too brown it tastes bitter. If the Communion bread is not done in a low temperature, then give it a few minutes at a low temperature before using.

You can make the bread, talk to them about Communion and what the bread means. Eat it with them before your service. Help them to learn to practice ‘open Communion’, which simply means that, no matter who you are, you are welcome to take part. With this in mind, our objective should be to help our children understand Communion. I believe we as parents can help our children experience, understand, and value the Communion through a simple pre-Communion or follow-up experience during the week. Its design is to evoke reflection and discussion, and ultimately, as they grow older, understanding. These ideas implemented can provide you with an opportunity for you to help your child reflect on the Communion that is going to take place next Sabbath, or that has just passed. Please ensure that you vary to them your family circumstances.

Next: a day’s experience, ‘gentle stretch’ at the start of the day, as well as a bit of a laugh.

‘Behold, I am vile’, said Job. In other words, ‘I am unworthy’.


Now, it’s not every group of people who use the equipment (I know I’ve been using and, according to Simon, suggests to the others that the good Lord will look after him because I have just touched the apparatus!

Yesterday morning he joked that the nurses had used the ‘offering basket’ from the changing rooms. The gym owners had removed a well-maintained hand dryer, and one of the old guys was asking why there were those gaping holes in the wall. ‘Oh, said Barry with a wink towards me, ‘that was where the minister’s offering basket used to hang!”

Pray for me, I wish, because these men need to hear what I am sharing with you today. I want to share with them the great news of the Gospel, but I am proceeding gingerly, cautiously. I am not their banker. I cringe, inwardly, at the foul-mouthed language that most of them use, but try not to show it on my face.

They are vile – but no more so, truly, than you and me. And they need to hear of the One who covers our vileness, our filthiness, our unworthiness.

‘Behold, I am vile’, Job 40:4: ‘gentle stretch’ at the start of the day, as well as a bit of a laugh.

Fidelity

We find one of the most touching stories of the Bible in Judges 19. The holy tribe, the Levites, don’t have their own land, so one of them is wandering through Ephraim’s territory when he meets a Levite girl (Judges 19:1). The young lady cheats on him, and runs away to her father – but, instead of giving up on her, the Levite, taking kindly to her, tries to get her back (Judges 19:2, 3). He does so, and, despite several attempts by the woman’s father to persuade them to stay, they finally marry (Judges 19:4-10, 14).

This story doesn’t end there, of course – it becomes the backdrop for the sickening civil war in which Israel became embroiled immediately afterwards (Judges 20:23-28). It is a lesson well worth learning.

Paul writes that all Scripture is inspired by God and very useful (2 Timothy 3:15, 16), and the Scriptures tell us about Jesus (John 5:39) – so what lessons can we learn here?

Well, Leviticus was not the only holy man to be treated unluckily. God actually told the prophet Hosea to marry a prostitute (Hosea 1:2-3). Paul writes that all Scripture is inspired by God and very useful (2 Timothy 3:15, 16), and the Scriptures tell us about Jesus (John 5:39) – so what lessons can we learn here?

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feature

An African adventure

Day one
Let’s join the volunteer group on their first day in Mozambique. They are there to build twelve one-day churches in partnership with Maranatha Flights International, a much-respected supporting ministry of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

The group is traveling in four vehicles, each with a trailer. The back roads they have chosen through Gaza Province are dusty and deserted. But this is a small inconvenience in exchange for the capital’s congested suburbs and dreaded roadblocks.

A diesel leak
Suddenly the lead vehicle slides to a stop. The driver gets out and fiddles under the Land Rover. We tumble out of our cramped seats in time to catch the words:

“Diesel is leaking. A diesel leak will almost certainly stop us! Leave immediately, set up camp as best you can, and start putting up the first church after breakfast, as planned.”

In police ‘company’
We were now alone in a foreign country, surrounded by a language barrier, and in the grim company of the local police!

It took almost five hours to complete the accident report, and two one-page statements! Mainly because of the language barriers – but the mosquitoes didn’t help either.

The truck driver was anxious to avoid any possibility of a court appearance because his South African-registered vehicle, with handwritten registration plates, had no brakes.

We shared his desire to avoid Mozambique’s legal system and an agreement was reached that each party would take care of its own repairs.

Day two
Thank God, our friends fetched us – and we had a few hours of sleep.

While our brave team built their first steel church, two of us returned to Chokwe and waited for the red tape to unravel at the police HQ. We waited for the typist, who waited for the official who had the receipt book, who waited for the one who set the fines; who finally talked to the man who had the only official stamp in the building!

And so, after five hours and a £30 fine, we trundled off slowly to freedom and friends.

Eight churches in five days
God was good. Despite the awful start to the trip, we managed to complete eight one-day churches in five days, have a swim in the Indian Ocean – and load our battered pickup and trailer onto a truck for their long trip home!

It had been a real adventure, packed with new experiences for the volunteers. It was quite sobering to think that it could have ended disastrously in Chokwe, but grateful to know that it didn’t – and that there is reason to have faith in these ancient words:

‘The LORD will keep you from all harm – he will watch over your coming and going both now and forevermore.’ (Psalm 121:7, 8, NIV.)

The events upon which this brief report is based took place between 2nd and 14th July 2006, and involved a group of twenty-four volunteers from South Africa.

‘Chicken buses’ is a term used to describe the overloaded buses that ply some of Africa’s rural routes. They are usually loaded (on the roof) with every conceivable item of household goods and furniture, brightly coloured plastic containers, bicycles, goats and chickens!

Swirling leaves; sagging grey skies; birds bickering over fat balls; pyramids of blue de-icing fluid – winter’s calling cards are on display. So turn up the central heating; make a cuppa of your favourite brew; and let me spirit you away for a warm African adventure.

by our editor

Psalm 121:7, 8, NIV.
A great opportunity to buy those extra special gifts to share with family, friends and neighbours.

All are welcome

Among the special offers for the day:

The Best of Christmas in My Heart only £8.00 each – save 35%!
Advent Calendar now only £5.00 each – save 50%!
Available while stocks last!

Buy 40 Days Book 1 at £6.95 each and get 40 Days Book 2 Free

Buy fifty or more copies of When God Said Remember (SP edition) at 50p each and get the same quantity of Steps to Christ (Illustrated edition) Free

The Chosen – Morning Devotional – £10.95
Join Dwight K. Nelson in an experience with God that will revolutionise your life as you stand where the chosen of old once stood – on the brink of the Promised Land.

Renew – Women’s Devotional – £12.95
Spend a few moments each day communing with God and the nearly three hundred women from around the world who have experienced his renewal.

Lift Him Up – Evening Devotional – £10.75
This collection of selected works by Ellen G. White will recalibrate and revive your spirit, helping you to reconnect intimately with Jesus in new ways.

Keeping it Real – Young Adult Devotional – £10.00
Becky De Oliveira will inspire you to approach the Christian life fearlessly and embrace your individuality throughout your journey in the real world.

Live Out Loud – Teen Devotional – £10.00
Discover the four steps to overcoming temptation. Gain assurance of your salvation, as well as a better understanding of God’s will. Find out the key to dealing with both the sweet and bitter times of life.

P2P Peer to Peer – Junior Devotional – £10.00
P2P has hundreds of incredible stories from teenagers who have something amazing and personal each day to say to you about faith, God, church, school, and everything else that really counts.

God’s Big Idea – Primary Devotional – £10.00
You can get wise and grow your soul by starting every morning with a big idea from God. Here are hundreds of them! What are you waiting for?
Prayer line ministry available
Charita Mungana of Chelmsford Church is currently running a prayer line for broken homes, prayer for Alzheimer’s, addiction, and healing the sick. This is an ongoing prayer line that will be available every Sunday between 8 and 8.15pm. The prayer line number is 08448 360 360 (calls cost 2p a minute on a BT line).

Alternatively, email: praylineminiature@gebail.com, or attend in person at the church, 63 Norman Road, Chelmsford, Essex CM2 0DR (every Thursday between 8 and 7.30pm).

King of the convoy
Brother (Hubert) Smiley regularly offers transport to church events for members across the Midlands. Messenger staff decided to lift the lid on his enterprising ministry . . .

Andrew: Brother Smiley, when did you start organising coaches?
Brother Smiley: Our first trip to Grantham took place in 1972, in an ‘old-timey’ Bedford bus – we’ve been going for nearly forty years!

Andrew: Where do you go?
Brother Smiley: We take members from twenty-eight churches across the Midlands to camp meetings, and to church outings at Llandudno, Blackpool and Southport – but the one thing we look forward to most every year is the Stanborough Press open day!

Andrew: What’s the largest convoy you’ve organised?
Brother Smiley: A few years ago Ben Cartledge came to the open day, and we took six coaches, including a double-decker – we had to watch out for low telegraph poles! That year it rained so hard the windscreen wipers stopped working.

Andrew: Have you had many problems over the years?
Brother Smiley: In 1973, after taking everyone back home, I fell asleep at the wheel and broke my hand – and this year my poorly leg stopped me from driving. In all those years, though, we’ve never had a puncture or a breakdown.

Andrew: Thank God for that!

Andrew: What’s next on the agenda?
Brother Smiley: We’re hoping to organise coaches from London for next year’s open day at The Stanborough Press – only one came this year, and I hear many more people would come if only they had transport.

Andrew: Thanks for your time sir.

Nine baptised at Northampton Central
Sabbath 24 September was a ‘high day’ at Northampton Central, where at least 200 people gathered to witness Pastor Bruce baptise Yvonne Tuffield, Lydia, Margaret Knight, Elizabeth Rangarira, James Sterling, Gabrielle Sterling, Ethan Sterling, Yaw GyeNyame (the youngest candidate, only 11 years old), and Edward McManus. The candidates came from Rugby Church, Harlestone Road Church, and Northampton Central Church. Now their eyes are focused on Jesus.

Baptism at South Shields
August 6 was an historic day at South Shields Church! Shauna Cartledge from Sunderland, who had been attending church with her family (who are baptised Adventists) decided to give her life to Christ and was baptised. Shauna, 25, is now active in the church with her mother Colleen and brothers Liam and Connor.

Please pray for this section in the North-East so that towns like South Shields and cities like Sunderland can be reached.

Coventry Central welcomes seven new members
On 7 October, Coventry Central Church welcomed newly baptised members after a two-week campaign. Some family members who had come to witness the occasion also decided that it was a good time to choose the Lord Jesus, and we hope to celebrate their baptism in the next few weeks! The campaign was conducted by Pastor Ouadjo and the baptism was carried out by Pastor Liburd.

Twins baptised at Hemel Hempstead
On Sabbath 8 October, Sarah and Katherine Padley were baptised at Hemel Hempstead Church, confirming their decision to follow Christ. Their older brother Jonathan was baptised in April. Pastor Daniel Thompson baptised the twins. He has left Hemel to pastor the churches in Bournemouth and Weymouth, but had prepared the girls for baptism, and was happy to return with his wife Hilary.

Dejan Stojkovic preached a sermon called ‘Super Heroes’ (Jesus is our Super Hero), and after lunch the twins cut a special celebratory cake.

Special touch for Area 5 day of fellowship
The Area 5 day of fellowship, which took place at The Globe in Reading on 17 September, included the Reading Central Special Needs Ministry team’s presentation of the story of Jonah – in the form of a children’s play. The play built on the success of a similar event last year, and showed how using sight, sound, touch and smell can help people with special needs learn about the Bible. Virginia Williams, Special Needs Ministry leader, said: ‘Every first Sabbath of the month we have a Sabbath School programme for people with special needs. We turn Bible stories into plays.’

One little boy said he would like to come to church every week because the children’s story was the best he had ever seen! Paulette Francis, who has a daughter with special needs, said: ‘There should be lots more plays like this.’

Garden baptism
On 23 July Kayla Leeson and Tara McCormac were baptised in the beautiful garden of Winchester Church members, Keith and Lorna Nightingale. The girls, neither of whom are yet in their teens, shared their day with family, church friends and school friends.

It’s an amazing privilege for a father to baptise his own child, and members could see Dougie’s joy and hear the angels singing!
ASNA — ten years of changing lives

The Adventist Special Needs Association (ASNA) held its ten-year celebratory banquet on 8 October at the Oxford Belfry Hotel, near Oxford. ASNA is a user-led charity (inspired by the birth of Matthew Nichols, who has multiple disabilities and special needs), developed to give spiritual, social, emotional, and physical support to people living with disabilities and special needs. ASNA also works with churches to enable the Gospel to be accessible to all.

ADRA-UK, along with the SEC, have been key partners for ASNA in the UK. More than eighty volunteers have supported ASNA over the past ten years, and their contributions and undying commitment were recognised with the award of certificates for their continued ministry.

The banquet was the highlight of the annual ASNA carers’ weekend, during which unpaid carers from all over the UK come together for spiritual, social and emotional support. Marilyn Baker, a blind Christian singer, and Tracey Williamson, a deaf Christian writer and speaker, enabled carers to contemplate the love of Christ and his leading in their lives.

The annual UK-wide disability co-ordinators’ training conference was held in the Oxford Spires Four Pillars Hotel, Abingdon road, Oxford on 13 November.

For further information about ASNA, or to volunteer or make a contribution to the work, please visit the website: www.asna.info, or send an email to: info@asna.info.

SOPHIA NICHOLLS (ASNA CO-FOUNDER AND TRUSTEE)

Pathfinders’ banquet at Newport

Newport Church, after a morning baptism, held a Pathfinders’ banquet on Sabbath, 15 October. The Welsh Mission helped the organisers to prepare, and about fifty people, of whom thirty-two were young people from Newport, Cathedral Central and North, Ystrad Mynach, London and Llandrindod Wells, enjoyed a five-course meal courtesy of Randolph Joseph.

The Central, Harlestone Road and Rugby churches congregated in Northampton for a joint youth day on 17 September, with a congregation of roughly 250 people. Lucy and Reiss, overseers for the youth, created their own programme on the theme, ‘The Power of Influence’.

They realise that young people have varied social needs, which should be met at church as well as at home; otherwise, neglected youth may be caught up by the world. Most importantly, the young need to be informed about the Lord and given learning opportunities to enable spiritual and intellectual growth.

Each child was given a sheet to stamp at each station, the children were split into eight groups, and each group was instructed to remain at its health station until a bell rang to let them know it’s time to move on to the next station. The stations, as at every children’s health expo, were based on the eight NEWSTART principles: nutrition, exercise, water, sunlight, temperance, air, rest, and trust in God.

This led into the presentation given by Ian Masters and Rob Edmonds from the Watford New Hope Trust, a charity which helps the homeless in the Watford area. They shared with the audience the importance of engaging people in the local area. Many parents were able to share this occasion and join in offering thanks and praise to God.

For further details, call us on 01476 400184

www.dudleyhouseschool.co.uk

Evangelism — music to our ears!

All four Portuguese-speaking churches in London recently gave former Adventists and others a gift ticket to attend a first-class concert called ‘Reenconto Imperdível’ (Unforgettable Reunion), which was held at ‘House on the Rock’ on 15 October. More than 800 attended and more than forty people made the commitment to come back to church through a revived passion for Jesus Christ!

The inspiration came from Pastor Costa, GC Communications director, who used his holiday last year to deliver nineteen first-class concerts throughout the north of Brazil, appealing to former Adventists to return to their first love. This first series had 70,000 attendees, and more than 5,000 surrendered to Jesus.

Perhaps successes like these show that music should become once again a definitive method of evangelism!

SOPHIA NICHOLLS

Sutton-in-Ashfield festival and classes

The Sutton-in-Ashfield church had its harvest festival on 17 September, and passed on the food to contacts of the church who are in need, and the Salvation Army, with whom the church works closely in humanitarian work.

Members have also been hosting cooking classes for four evenings, attended by twelve people from the community. They plan a health programme for the near future.

EUNICE MASON

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ASNA – ten years of changing lives

The Adventist Special Needs Association (ASNA) held its ten-year celebratory banquet on 8 October at the Oxford Belfry Hotel, near Oxford. ASNA is a user-led charity (inspired by the birth of Matthew Nichols, who has multiple disabilities and special needs), developed to give spiritual, social, emotional, and physical support to people living with disabilities and special needs. ASNA also works with churches to enable the Gospel to be accessible to all.

ADRA-UK, along with the SEC, have been key partners for ASNA in the UK. More than eighty volunteers have supported ASNA over the past ten years, and their contributions and undying commitment were recognised with the award of certificates for their continued ministry.

The banquet was the highlight of the annual ASNA carers’ weekend, during which unpaid carers from all over the UK come together for spiritual, social and emotional support. Marilyn Baker, a blind Christian singer, and Tracey Williamson, a deaf Christian writer and speaker, enabled carers to contemplate the love of Christ and his leading in their lives.

The annual UK-wide disability co-ordinators’ training conference was held in the Oxford Spires Four Pillars Hotel, Abingdon road, Oxford on 13 November.

For further information about ASNA, or to volunteer or make a contribution to the work, please visit the website: www.asna.info, or send an email to: info@asna.info.

SOPHIA NICHOLLS (ASNA CO-FOUNDER AND TRUSTEE)

Pathfinders’ banquet at Newport

Newport Church, after a morning baptism, held a Pathfinders’ banquet on Sabbath, 15 October. The Welsh Mission helped the organisers to prepare, and about fifty people, of whom thirty-two were young people from Newport, Cathedral Central and North, Ystrad Mynach, London and Llandrindod Wells, enjoyed a five-course meal courtesy of Randolph Joseph.

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Joint youth day at Harlestone Road Church

The Central, Harlestone Road and Rugby churches congregated in Northampton for a joint youth day on 17 September, with a congregation of roughly 250 people. Lucy and Reiss, overseers for the youth, created their own programme on the theme, ‘The Power of Influence’.

They realise that young people have varied social needs, which should be met at church as well as at home; otherwise, neglected youth may be caught up by the world. Most importantly, the young need to be informed about the Lord and given learning opportunities to enable spiritual and intellectual growth.

Each child was given a sheet to stamp at each station, the children were split into eight groups, and each group was instructed to remain at its health station until a bell rang to let them know it’s time to move on to the next station. The stations, as at every children’s health expo, were based on the eight NEWSTART principles: nutrition, exercise, water, sunlight, temperance, air, rest, and trust in God.

This led into the presentation given by Ian Masters and Rob Edmonds from the Watford New Hope Trust, a charity which helps the homeless in the Watford area. They shared with the audience the importance of engaging people in the local area. Many parents were able to share this occasion and join in offering thanks and praise to God.

For further details, call us on 01476 400184

www.dudleyhouseschool.co.uk

Opportunity knocked for Nottingham Central

Nottingham Central members were thrilled to run the children’s health expo at Cotgrave Candle Lane School on Friday 21 October. The opening was made by Deovin Elliot, who works at the school, and Edgar Wallace organised the event, assisted by Olene Dunkley from the NEC.

Each child was given a sheet to stamp at each station; the children were split into eight groups, and each group was instructed to remain at its health station until a bell rang to let them know it’s time to move on to the next station. The stations, as at every children’s health expo, were based on the eight NEWSTART principles: nutrition, exercise, water, sunlight, temperance, air, rest, and trust in God.

When all the children at the expo had completed all eight stations, they were gathered together and asked questions about each station to see how much they had learned! To end the programme the children sang the song they learned at Station Trust and received their certificates.

GRACE BRADLEY

Stanborough Primary School harvest festival

On Wednesday 12 October, Stanborough Primary School and Nursery children celebrated their harvest festival with songs, drama and poetry, presenting their items with confidence and style. The Year-5 class delighted the audience with a ‘Harvest Samba’, while Year 6 sang ‘Streets of London’, which reminded the audience of the many people in need on our streets.

This led into the presentation given by Ian Masters and Rob Edmonds from the Watford New Hope Trust, a charity which helps the homeless in the Watford area. They shared with the children some of the realities of living on the streets, and illustrated this by dressing up a volunteer in the many layers of clothes that a homeless person may wear to survive a cold night without a roof over his or her head. Prior to their visit, the school staff received a ‘shopping list’ from Watford New Hope Trust, and many children brought in toilet rolls, porridge oats, sugar and a variety of tinned food items. These donations, together with a collection totaling £302.50, were presented to the charity. The school community is very happy to make a difference to needy people in the local area. Many parents were able to share this occasion and join in offering thanks and praise to God.

GRACE BRADLEY
Pathfinder rally day
On 10 September the NEC held a Pathfinder and Adventurer rally day for Areas 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 at Cathedral House in Huddersfield.

The colour party, Pathfinders, Adventurers and drum corps entered, and the rally day was declared open!

Pastor Barry Stoke of the Huddersfield church welcomed all, including the deputy lady mayor. In her response the lady mayor gave words of encouragement to some 1,500 Adventurers, Pathfinders and supporters.

The Huddersfield Pathfinders and the Pathfinders band from Nottingham Central gave praise, as did two Adventurers with their violin duet. Bumagroove Pathfinders dramatised the theme ‘Crossing the Finish Line’, saying, ‘The Christian race is not for the swift, but for those who endure to the end.’

Leekey Mbaya shared the Word with conviction and authority.

The 1,500 Pathfinders, Adventurers and supporters were guided by a friendly police team in an afternoon parade through Huddersfield. Thousands of tracts were handed out, and the procession joined up with the Pathfinder band for praise to Jesus.

Investiture at Walesby
On 2 October the 2010-2011 Pathfinder Leadership Award (PLA) candidates and Master Guides gathered at the Walesby training and camping centre to be invested after a one-year (five-camping-weekend) programme of intense but enjoyable training.

The North England Pathfinders have in recent years, with Pastor Trevor Thomas as director, experienced tremendous growth – giving rise to an unprecedented demand for members. (PLA) and Shirley Parnell (Master Guide) have delivered a most excellent programme through the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

The Huddersfield Pathfinders and the Pathfinder ministry to even higher levels. Before Pastor Hush repeated the charge, he highlighted the generic use of the term ‘men’ in the following passage to mean Christian leaders:

Pastor Alan Hush has now taken on the directorship, and wishes to take the Pathfinder ministry to even higher levels. Before Pastor Hush repeated the charge, he highlighted the generic use of the term ‘men’ in the following passage to mean Christian leaders:

The greatest want of the world is the want of men – men who will not be bought or sold, men who in their inmost souls are true and honest, men who do not fear to call sin by its right name, men whose conscience is as true to duty as the needle to the pole, men who will stand for the right though the heavens fall.’ – Ellen White, Education, p. 57.

Candiates with their families, well-wishers and trainers all repeated the charge with Pastor Alan Hush, who then congratulated and admonished the candidates to lead the youth to Christ.

John Gwn Gregory (1929-2011) d. 2 September, Gwn was born on 11 May 1929 and was always a person who did what he could for those in need. Gwn grew up in an Adventist family that was always associated with the Barry church in South Wales. In his early twenties, Gwn was baptised by Pastor S. G. Drake in Cardiff. A young intern straight from college, of the name of Charles Watson, made a deep impression on Gwn’s life. Just a few years later Pastor John Freeman brought new life into the Barry church following a series of meetings at the Memorial Hall. A number of young people, who were to be the life-long friends of Gwn, joined the church. Gwn and his new-found friends would often travel to the youth meeting at St Pauls, the Seventh-day Adventist church in Cardiff. All the young people enjoyed each other’s company until they went their separate ways.

It was in 1956 it that Pastor Matthew Murdoch began a series of meetings at the Memorial Hall in Barry. His Bible worker was Minn. Dorothy Hayhurst. Pastor Murdoch would say later that he did not think they would lose a Bible worker in Barry. On 19 July 1959 Gwn and Dorothy were married. They were to have three children; Julie, David and Richard.

Gwn passed away in hospital on 2 September 2011. He was laid to rest in Barry Cemetery, after a service conducted by Pastor Jeremy Tremeer and the writer. We remember Dorothy in our prayers, Julie and her family, David and Richard, and Gwn’s sister Iris and her family.

Eva Llewella Marjorie ‘Della’ Phillips (1920-2011) d. 10 September, Eva was born in Nelson, Glamorgan on 10 November 1920. She fell asleep to await the call of the Life-Giver on 30 September 2011 after a short stay in hospital.

Like many girls in the South Wales valleys in the inter-war years, she left home to be in service to a family in London. Returning to Wales, she joined a group of young people who travelled around as entertainers in the community. She married Ball, one of the young men in the group, in August 1944. The family grew quickly, with two sons and then triplets. It was at the end of 1955 that an event took place that was to affect Della and the family for the rest of their life.

A series of meetings conducted by Pastor George Emm and Ted Marshall led Della to commit her life to the Lord. In 1957 she joined the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Members of her family joined with others to form the Adventist church. Throughout the years a number of ministers and their families found a welcome in the Phillips home. When visiting Della and her husband Ball they often spoke of the family – Ray, Peter (who, sadly, passed away in 2005), Nicky, Lesley and Nigel – of whom they were justly proud.

In later years Della joined the Ystrad Mynach church. She was always interested in the young people and often spoke words of encouragement to them. She loved and was loved by Alvin and Anthea Pilling, who kept a caring eye on her and brought her regularly to church. Many of her friends from the local community in Aberdare will miss her. Many attended the service held to commemorate her life.

At the service Pastor Jeremy Tremeer, the local minister, welcomed relatives and friends, and Pastor Brian Phillips gave a glimpse into her life and spiritual journey. Many were touched by the poem read by Anthea Pilling, and Pastor John Ferguson, a family friend, compared the life we are living with the life that is to come. A former minister at Aberdare, Pastor Russ Edwards, spoke at the grave site of the joy we will have at the resurrection. What a smile of recognisation we will expect to see from Della on that resurrection morn-

BUC retirees gather at Newbold
Sunday 9 October was the day 120 former employees of the BUC met at Newbold for fellowship and saw special guests, Dr Bert Beach (who served for twenty-five years as Education director and then as secretary of the Trans-European Division, before moving to the General Conference) and his wife, Eliane.

The day included a tour of the Roy Graham library (led by librarians Dr B. P. Phillips and ‘Ted’ Marshall), an introduction to the college principal (Dr Philip Brown) and his wife Sharon, lunch in the college cafeteria, and an address by Pastor Dr Beach in the Moon Chapel. As a church leader for more than fifty years, Dr Beach shared experiences from his life of ministry.

This event was one of the largest attended by retirees in recent years.

Gwyn was born in Nelson, Glamorgan on 10 November 1920. She fell asleep to await the call of the Life-Giver on 30 September 2011 after a short stay in hospital.
Newport Church’s health fair

On 11 September Great Brickkiln Church members welcomed visitors at their family fun day, held at the historic Bantock Park Museum Centre, Wolverhampton. Much interest was shown by both adults and children in the evangelist workshop displays, and the music concert was well attended. Among the various activities were the drumming and drilling parade by the Pathfinders, the bouncy castle, and face-painting and cartoon portraits by Great Brickkiln artists, along with relay games. Large queues appeared for the free snacks and refreshments. This event was very successful, and the outreach conducted here may reap eternal rewards.

Dr Chidi Ngwaba, a GP and orthopaedic surgeon, told about thirty people at the Newport Health Fair the first signs of a heart attack – not shortness of breath or chest pains, but a lack of rest, consumption of junk food, and stress!

The health fair, an autumn fixture in the Newport church’s calendar, was enriched by Adventists from across Wales. The Welsh Mission has recently set up a country-wide Health team, which had a training session on how to run health outreach events only the previous week: so, even though this was a Newport event, some of the desks and stalls were manned by members from Cardiff, Swansea, and Carmarthen, and even Peterborough and the West Midlands.

The fair, held on 18 September, included cholesterol and blood-pressure checks and assessment of emotional intelligence and lifestyle – the offer was fairly holistic. There were also cookery demonstrations, and, yes, some tasting. A couple of days later, one lady expressed her gratitude – “Thank you for doing something for the local community, for raising awareness about health and for the most delicious meal I had in years.”

At least one person is known to have established ongoing contact and enquired about cookery classes. Who knows what journey that person will walk between now and Health Fair 2012?

On 11 September the Newport church opened its doors to all locals to show them how to prepare vegetarian food. Everybody enjoyed the cooking demonstrations, and would like to come again for another course. Pearly, Beryl, Marty and others worked very hard to make this a great success for the church, and it also opened people’s minds to vegetarian foods.

Norwich vegetarian outreach

On Sunday 11 September the Norwich church opened its doors to all locals to show them how to prepare vegetarian food. Everybody enjoyed the cooking demonstrations, and would like to come again for another course. Pearly, Beryl, Marty and others worked very hard to make this a great success for the church, and it also opened people’s minds to vegetarian foods.

Oronation of elders and deacons

Elder Nigel De Vos and Elder Lloyd were ordained by Pastor Bruce on Sabbath 24 September at the Harlesstone Road church in Northampton. Elder Murray was charged to escort Nigel to the front of the church, and Elder Welsh escorted Lloyd Sterling. Elder Joseph Woodburn was ordained for ordination by Elder Murray Fuller. Brother Reginald Goodwin (deacon) was ordained by Elder Adedayo Falade, and Brother Paul Tociti (deacon) was ordained by Elder Firmin. They were ordained on 1 October at Central Church in like manner.

The enemy’s attacks can be subtle, and the health disastrous – but only if you are not properly armed! The latest Radical book is full of power-packed advice to arm yourself with God’s protection in a very real spiritual war.

New book of the week

Radical Protection

Derek J. Morris

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Visit the BUC website at:
www.adventist.org.uk

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About the image: The image contains a page from a document with text about various events, including health fairs, cookery classes, and community outreach activities. It also includes information about subscriptions, book orders, and the publication details of the MESSENGER magazine.