Based on a report by Monique Simpson

On Sabbath, 7 April, Willesden members brought the community to a standstill during their march to the local library. Led by the Pathfinder drum corps and our national flag, more than a hundred members of all ages marched through the streets, sharing smiles and literature with all they met. At the Willesden Green Library Centre the members led out in a service of praise and worship, followed by a short message from Pastor Des Boldeau proclaiming that 'Jesus is alive!'

The purpose of the event was to let the community know that the church was there for them — and it seemed to work. One of them, Dave, summed it up like this: 'The whole event has brightened up the community. It was very good. The word from the pastor, the singing — it was all excellent!' (Dave marched back to the church with the members — now he knows where the church is, maybe he'll visit again one day.)

One of our teenagers, Oksana, a Pathfinder who was marching behind the band, had this to say: 'I think it's a good thing for the community that they are made aware of our church and about God. The parade also shows young people being disciplined and getting involved, and that not all of us wear hoods and carry knives!'

Well done Willesden — you brought the streets to a standstill over the Easter weekend, created a festive atmosphere, and gave the community something spiritual to think about. When BUC president, Pastor Ian Sweeney reads this he'll say: 'Full marks Willesden — you made a positive impact for Jesus and His Church!'
**Golden eight — part 6b**

**What’s on your plate?**

I hope you found last issue’s homework on dietary resources helpful. Over 100 years ago E. G. White gave some useful advice regarding dietary intelligence:

‘Grains, fruits, nuts, and vegetables constitute the diet chosen for us by our Creator. These foods, prepared in as simple and natural a manner as possible, are the most healthful and nourishing. They impart a strength, a power of endurance, and a vigour of intellect that are not afforded by a more complex and stimulating diet.’ (The Ministry of Healing, p. 238)

Today, at least one medical journal, The Lancet, has come to a similar conclusion:

‘Eating a diet rich in plant foods, in the form of fruits, vegetables, and whole-grain cereals, probably remains the best option for reducing the risk of chronic disease and promoting general health protection.’ (The Lancet, 3 May 2003: 361, 1448)

So, what’s on your plate? At the 2010 North American Division health summit, the 500-plus attendees received a book titled *The Full Plate Diet.* Although not a purely plant-based book, it relates to the portions we should be eating from each food group, and how to eat more fruit, vegetables, grains, seeds and nuts while cutting back on animal products — all in the move to a more plant-based diet. It focuses on increasing fibre in the diet. www.FullPlateDiet.org

Top five fruits:
1. Raspberries/blackberries: 1 cup (8g fibre); 2. pears: 1 medium (6g fibre); 3. apples: 1 medium (4g fibre); 4. tomatoes: 1 medium (3g fibre); 5. bananas: 1 medium (3g fibre).

Top five vegetables:
1. Avocados: 1 medium (14g fibre); 2. broccoli: 1 cup (5g fibre); 3. spinach: 1 cup (4g fibre); 4. sweet potatoes: 1 medium (5g fibre); 5. carrots: 1 cup (5g fibre).

Top five beans:
1. Navy beans: ½ cup (10g fibre); 2. lentils: ½ cup (8g fibre); 3. pinto beans: ½ cup (8g fibre); 4. black beans: ½ cup (6g fibre); 5. kidney beans: ½ cup (6g fibre).

Top five nuts and seeds:
1. Flax seeds: 1oz (8g fibre); 2. almonds: 1oz (4g fibre); 3. sunflower seeds: 1oz (2g fibre); 4. peanuts: 1oz (2g fibre); 5. walnuts: 1oz (2g fibre).

Top five grains:
1. Whole: 1 cup (3g fibre); 2. pearl barley: 1 cup (6g fibre); 3. quinoa: 1 cup (5g fibre); 4. oats: 1 cup (4g fibre); 5. brown rice: 1 cup (4g fibre).

**Eat up!**

During our second year of ministry, I had the dubious honour of being the ‘associate’ pastor of a large church in Johannesburg’s central business district (CBD). Due to its location, the side streets around this church tended to be quite deserted on Saturday evenings, after the regular church ‘socials’. In fact, for many blocks, the city was effectively a ghost town — except for a smattering of vagrants, bedded down in doorways and stairwells.

As ‘associate’ pastor, I soon got the hang of the job: closing windows, stacking chairs, folding tables, sweeping up and any other ‘associated’ tasks. It may sound like a chore, but the deacons and deaconesses were a jolly lot and Elize and I enjoyed their company.

One such evening, after a chorus of noisy ‘goodbyes’, I noticed my beige Peugeot 404 out of its parking bay and into the dimly lit one-way streets that led south, out of the CBD. We threaded our way between shadowy buildings, stopping at deserted traffic lights, until we reached the four lanes that were soon to merge with the motorway.

Suddenly... As if from thin air, there was a beam of bright light in my wing mirror and an impact against the right passenger door!

‘A car had sped out of the darkness and rammed us from the side,’ I was trusting... naïve... stupid... not ready for the danger lurking in the city that night. Instead of flooring the pedal, jumping the next set of lights, and speeding off to the safety of the motorway, I stepped on the car and got out.

So did four men from the car that had just rammed us!

We were in trouble!

Deep trouble! These men were cool, calculating ‘carjackers’, with every intention of doing us harm. I can still see them in my imagination — advancing menacingly like gunslingers from a spaghetti western!

Then there were more bright lights, and two cars slid to a halt behind the ‘carjackers’. Doors slammed again in the silent street. Four more men advanced on us... Suddenly... A nasty turn

Suddenly, however, the prophet’s fortunes take a nasty turn. The king of Aram discovers that Elisha is hiding in the town of Dothan and takes decisive action: ‘Then he sent horses and chariots and a strong force there. They went by night and surrounded the city. (2 Kings 6:14, NIV)

Imagine the shock and horror of Elisha’s servant when he goes out early the next morning:

‘And Elisha prayed, “Open his eyes, LORD, so that he may see.”’

Then the LORD opened the servant’s eyes, and he looked and saw the hills full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha.’

(2 Kings 6:15, NIV)

**Deep trouble!** These men were cool, calculating ‘carjackers’, with every intention of doing us harm. I can still see them in my imagination — advancing menacingly like gunslingers from a spaghetti western!

Then there were more bright lights, and two cars slid to a halt behind the ‘carjackers’.

Doors slammed again in the silent street. Four more men advanced on us... Suddenly...
nurture

Someone isn’t listening. Who?

A devotional message recently presented by Dr David Marshall at the Stanborough Press.

 preparation for this morning, I read into Nelson’s Complete Book of Quotes. One quote took my attention. Hours later I still had my attention, but I was no longer sure if I had fully understood it at the first reading. Let me share it, and you see what you make of it. The quote, then: “No generation in any thousand years of Church history has produced the task force necessary to reach the world. Is this because God has called not adequate numbers? Or is it because someone is not listening? The truth is, less than one percent of full-time Christian workers are engaged in evangelistic ministry among the unen-

ised of the world. Is this a way to accommodate Him? How would He deploy His troops? Or is someone not listening? With the need so vast, with the suffering so few, why do we not go? Someone isn’t listening!”

Yes, a Christian missionary from the US, was travelling through some of the most needy mission fields of the world. He found himself in Northern India near a leprosarium. “I found myself in a place that was something outside the gate that took his breath away. A beautiful, but incredibly tragic, young nurse was attending to the needs of a leprosous beggar. The beggar had just shown up and had never been admitted to the leprosar-

ium. The businesswoman had an expensive video camera that he could not bring himself to film what he saw. In fact, he involuntarily wiped the tears from his eyes, as if scarred of catching something nasty. Tears filled his eyes as he heard the words to the young nurse: ‘Young lady, I wouldn’t do it for a million dollars.’ Without a pause, the nurse turned and said: ‘Sir, neither would I.’ But she went on anyway. You have heard of Billy Graham; but I wonder if you have heard of Ruth Bell Graham, his wife? In her book it’s My Turn she shares some stories of what it was like growing up as a mis-

ionary’s daughter in pre-Communist China. This is one of them.

One of the key global oil companies was looking to spread their operation to China. They needed a suitable man to manage the Chinese operation. They would have to choose a candidate, but felt certain that this would be a brilliant career opportunity for the right candidate. They had a choice of several candidates, but felt certain that this would be a brilliant career opportunity for the right candidate.

They wanted someone who was a graduate, and was young enough to be exciting. They made the challenge. The man would have to be a proven leader, and fluent in the main Chinese languages. They found the man they were looking for. At 29, he had all the qualifications, and was already working in the city where the oil company was planning to build their main office. They asked the young man how much he was to be paid. He replied that was such a modest sum, and confidently offered negotiations toی try to bring him. He was a missionary.

The oil company offered him twice the salary he was currently getting. They turned him down. They offered him three times his current salary. They turned him down again. They offered him four times his current salary. He turned them down. They upped the offer. The final offer was five times his current salary. He turned them down. For the final time they turned him down. He left the place he had been working for a place that was more exciting, and with the constant pain of his separation from his wife and new-born baby. But his friends helped him get a small flat and his recovery started. Gaining new momentum when he stumbled across the church’s ‘community kitchen’ – something they ran every Sabbath afternoon. There he got a good meal and found friendship. ‘I couldn’t believe how they listened, supported, encouraged and nurtured my recovery, never once judging me’, he said.

So he was helping in the kitchen and serving the visitors himself, with a profound sense of belonging.

He looked like the happiest man on earth at his baptism. Speaking of the church and its pastor, Jonathan said: ‘These people probably saved my life – more than this, they pointed me to God so that my soul could be saved too.’

He describes a realisation that God’s material support was only second to the spiritual fulfilment he found with the church, and it was that that sealed his recovery. ‘The Philippines changed my life; he says smiling, something that would have been improbable for him to say so positively only six months ago. ‘The church saved it’ – he smiles again. ‘I am the luckiest man on earth.’

Community kitchen earns top review!

Jonathan Bubb and Andrew Hall celebrated their baptisms at the Ipswich church, Rope Walk, Ipswich on 31 March. Twenty-eight-year-old Andrew is a team leader for Tesco and is married to Grace, and they have a baby daughter. Grace introduced him to the church two years ago.

Forty-seven-year-old Jonathan is a team leader for Tesco and is married to Grace, and they have a baby daughter. Grace introduced him to the church two years ago.

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The Upper Room Eleven found that the Gospel ‘burned’ within them, and, Spirit-driven, they brought the kernels of history to the boil. Again the search is on for someone listening. Is someone listening?

The trouble is with the job. The job is too little. I feel that God has called me to preach the Gospel of Christ. I would be a fool to quit the mission field. Next time round, the Lord will be looking for giants. If so, how will He find them? Where will He find them?

It’s a search for someone who has come through trauma not just to survive, but to thrive. The Upper Room Eleven found that the Gospel ‘burned’ within them, and, Spirit-driven, they brought the kernels of history to the boil. Again the search is on for someone listening. Is someone listening?

*With thanks to Robertson McGauley’s It’s My Turn (New York: 1989) and J. I. Packer, Knowing God (London: Hodder and Stoughton, 1973)."
Equal civil marriage consultation

The equal civil marriage consultation initiative of the UK government is controversial and has elicited widespread concern, both for and against, with Christians lining up on both sides of the issue. Here we expose our readers to two relevant position statements issued by the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, two letters received by the Missouri editor from high-profile members at the BUC office, and a brief editorial statement about the issues involved in the current controversy.

What are the real issues?
Well, to answer that we need to start with the proposal that the government intends to implement after the consultation period is as follows:

According to the Home Office’s own summary the changes will be as follows:

- **Same-sex couples are currently eligible for:**
  - A civil partnership on secular premises
  - Civil partnership registration on religious premises (on a voluntary basis for religious organisations).

But after the change . . .

- **Same-sex couples would be able to choose:**
  - A civil partnership on secular premises
  - A civil partnership registration on secular premises or on religious premises
  - Couples in existing civil partnerships would be able to convert their premises to a civil partnership

We reaffirm, without hesitation, our long-standing position. As Seventh-day Adventists our principles are based on the authority of God and His right to have us follow His clear ordinances for optimum social life. It is commonly held by many Christians, including most Seventh-day Adventists, that this will lead to a further degradation of marriage and family life – something this country can ill afford!

**Issue 1**
The first issue that concerns many Christians is the use of the term ‘marriage’ to describe something that Judeo-Christian marriage has never included: gay and lesbian relationships, no matter how caring or enduring they may be.

The whole concept of homosexual ‘marriage’ is a negation of the authority of God and His right to have us follow His clear ordinances for optimum social life. It is commonly held by many Christians, including most Seventh-day Adventists, that this will lead to a further degradation of marriage and family life – something this country can ill afford!

**Issue 2**
A question in the online magazine SEC Family points out another reason. It makes the point that ‘while on the face of it’ the intended changes ‘may appear to safeguard the rights of religious organisations not to perform same-sex marriages’, there is a latent danger lurking in the government’s consultation questionnaire:

- **Question 5. The government does not propose to open up religious organisations to same-sex couples. Do you agree or disagree with this proposal?**

If sufficient people disagree with the proposal, it could ‘provide a mandate for the government to extend the legislation to require religious organisations to perform same-sex marriages.’

You can make a difference
The best advice for those wishing to do something positive against the government’s intended course of action is to:

1. **Sign the Coalition for Marriage petition at c4m.org.uk and, to complete the Home Office equal civil marriage consultation questionnaire at www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/about-us/consultations/equal-civil-marriage consulta tion-form.html**

2. **To lend further weight to what Pastor Victor Hubert has shared with you, a consultation meeting with fellow concerned Christian leaders that I attended on Saturday, 29 March, 2009, in Silver Spring, Maryland.**

Re: Deafening silence!
**Dear Editor**
I noticed the letter from Allan Kissack in the 13 April BUC News complaining about the ‘deafening silence’ from our Church on the Government’s consultation period on same-sex marriage. We were quite as silent as Allan makes out. The 9 March BUC News (http://www.adventist-news.org/news/news2009/03/19/772.pdf), BUC News carried a much fuller article at the start of the consultation period. It noted the submission made by the Adventist Church to the Social Development Ministry for a submission a made by the Consultation Group for Christian Marriage to the BUC office.

One of the best things that you can do is go online to http://c4m.org.uk and support the Marriage Coalition campaign statement, which is very clear and biblical. I support the legal definition of marriage, which is the voluntary union for life of one man and one woman – the view of all of others. I oppose any attempt to redefine it.

Join us – give them your signature too! Blessings
IAN SWEENEY

Seventh-day Adventist Response to Same-Sex Unions – A Reaffirmation of Christian Marriage

Throughout several decades the Seventh-day Adventist Church has felt it necessary to state clearly in various ways its position in regards to marriage, the family, and human sexuality. These statements are at the heart of many pressing issues facing society. That which for centuries has been considered to be basic Christian morality in the marriage setting is now increasingly called into question, not only on secular society but within Christian churches themselves.

The institutions of family and marriage are under attack and facing growing centrifugal forces that are tearing them apart. An increasing number of nations are now debating the topic of ‘same sex unions’, thus making it a world issue. The public discussion has engendered strong emotions. In light of these developments, the Seventh-day Adventist Church is clearly restating its position.

We reaffirm, without hesitation, our long-standing position. As Seventh-day Adventists we believe that sexual intimacy and family life are solely within the marital relationship of a man and a woman. This was the design established by God at Creation. The Scriptures declare: for this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh (Gen. 2:24, NIV).

Throughout Scripture this heterosexual pattern is affirmed. The Bible makes no accommodation for homosexual activity or relationships. Sexual acts outside the circle of a heterosexual marriage are forbidden (Lev. 20:7-21, Rom. 1:24-27, 1 Cor. 6:9-11). Jesus Christ reaffirmed the divinity of marriage (Matt. 19:4-6, NIV 1984). For these reasons Adventists are opposed to homosexual practices and relationships.

Seventh-day Adventists endeavour to follow the instruction and example of Jesus. He affirmed the dignity of all human beings and reached out compassionately to persons and families suffering by the consequences of sin. He offered caring ministry and words of solace to struggling people, while differentiating His love for sinners from His clear teaching about sin.

This statement was voted during the Annual Council of the General Conference executive committee on Sunday, 5 October, 1990 in Silver Spring, Maryland.

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The advance of the homo movement has changed by the blatant marketing of homosexuality and the fact that the Christian voice of opposition has become so muted.

After the Ball: Their main point here is that gay people will just present themselves as a low-level disturbance instead of the loud and aggressive protests of the past, ‘straight’ they will never hear of it.

It is possible to tinker more favourably! We present in (order of increasing vigour and acceptability) three approaches (which are vastly better than what we’ve tried in the past).

The problem for Christians is that the other problem for Christians is that the other problem for Christians is that we have this problem of a lack of men in our churches, perhaps it is time for after all we have seen...
Please visit: www.adventistpictures.org.uk/megapixels for more pictures.

... everybody loves a flower!

The response to this project has been amazing, and I thank you. A lot of you seem to enjoy photographing flowers and close-ups, so I thought it high time we showcased your work.

I know the weather has not been so good lately, but I still need you to get out there with your cameras and shoot what you see around you – scenes, flora and fauna, birds, animals, insects and close-ups – anything that you feel portrays the wonder of creation.

If you have enjoyed all these great pictures, how about sending in yours, to: dbell@stanboroughpress.co.uk – just remember to keep them ‘hi-res’.

DAVID BELL

‘Consider how the wild flowers grow. They do not labour or spin. Yet I tell you, not even Solomon in all his splendour was dressed like one of these. If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today, and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, how much more will he clothe you – you of little faith!’

Luke 12:27, 28 (NIV-UK)

1. Busy bee.
   Jennie Hall, Sony DSC-TZ5.

2. Red rose.
   Prince Ayeh, Nikon D5000.

3. Spring daffs.
   Joshua Mridha, Sony SLT-A33.

4. Spring blossoms, Newbold.
   Victor Hubbard, Nikon D300.

5. Ready for take-off.
   Kerry Wreford-Bush, Canon Power Shot SX200.

6. Spring tulips, St Albans.
   Esti Pujic, Canon Power Shot SD950 IS.

7. Frosty roses, Crieff.
   Ruth Farrer, Fuji S5000.

Please visit www.adventistpictures.org.uk/megapixels for more pictures.
Hello Special Stars!
Imagine you are on a boat in the middle of a storm. There are gigantic waves, and the winds are at gale force. The boat is battered by the water and wind. Now think how you would feel if you knew that all the world was covered by water and there was no harbour. This is the situation Noah and his family encountered – but they were not afraid. Find out why by reading these letters, starting with the ‘G’ at the end of the line and reading backwards.

Noah was 600 years old when God warned him there would be a dreadful disaster coming to this world. The only way they could be saved from the flood was by going into the ark.

How many times can you find the word ‘ARK’ by going up, down, across or diagonally?

Noah rode the waves like a winner because he trusted God. He must have been reminded of this every time he saw a rainbow. When we see a rainbow we can praise God: we can trust Him too.

God wanted everyone to be saved so He waited many years before the earth was flooded. When you have filled the blanks with the numbers, put a circle around how long Noah preached.

Because Noah warned people of the flood they laughed at him. They did not believe they would die. The animals were wiser than the humans and went into the ark. Search for a:

- bear
- camel
- cow
- deer
- fox
- horse
- leopard
- lion

God wanted everyone to be saved so He waited many years before the earth was flooded. When you have filled the blanks with the numbers, put a circle around how long Noah preached.

The animals entered the ark.

The ark was ____ metres long, ____ metres wide and ____ metres high.

Noah waited for rain ____ days. Noah preached ____ years.

It rained for ____ days. There were ____ people saved.

Noah rode the waves like a winner because he trusted God. He must have been reminded of this every time he saw a rainbow. When we see a rainbow we can praise God: we can trust Him too.
Richard Daly presently pastors in Croydon, South London. He is married to Maxine and they have three boys:

**Footnote:**

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how we can live successful Christian lives,'running' along the path God wants us to follow.

Richard: Yes ... it includes some of my personal experiences, as well as encounters with those in the sporting world. I have drawn on specific events and experiences and tried to see the spiritual parallels.

Having attended the Olympics in the past, I have met some Olympians who have achieved inspiring feats and listened to their stories. On one occasion, I was in a media section when American athlete, Allyson Felix, silver medal winner, was so distraught at not winning gold that she collapsed in tears right in front of me. I had the opportunity to comfort her and somehow provide words of reassurance and hope. She thanked me for the encouragement – and just three days later she ran her second final event, and this time won gold.

Great Britain's Christine Ohuruogu was a 400m gold medal winner in Beijing. I had the opportunity to get to know her a bit better because she is a Christian. On the morning of her final race I sent her this SMS: 'She can do all things through Christ who strengthens her'. After her race she expressed her thanks for the text and told me how it had spurred her on!

Julian: Richard, you are still involved in the Olympics, aren't you?

Richard: Yes. I have been accepted as a chaplain for the London Games. This involves working in the Olympic village, where there will be a chapel. I will be part of a team offering spiritual counsel, services, prayer and Bible studies to interested athletes, staff members and other volunteers.

Richard, you are well-known among our London Adventists as a minister, preacher and writer – but I am not sure that everyone knows your passion for athletics, or your involvement with the Olympics. Tell us about Richard the athlete.

Richard: Well, Julian, my sporting journey began in my teens when I joined the Newham and Essex Beagles Athletics Club. Triple jump was my event – the one they call 'hop, skip and jump' – where you land in a sand pit! From there I progressed to national level competitions at venues like Crystal Palace, competing alongside greats like Daley Thompson, who became one of our Olympic decathlon champions.

Editor: I'm anticipating a 'Sabbath problem' at some point in your story, Richard. Was there one?

Richard: Yes . . . it includes some of my personal experiences, as well as encounters with those in the sporting world. I have drawn on specific events and experiences and tried to see the spiritual parallels.

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A number of Christian athletes from around the world will be at the Games, and many will want to continue their faith experience. There are also others who may need a listening ear if they have underperformed, become anxious or just need encouragement.

Editor: I believe that you met Usain Bolt before Prince Harry did – is that so?

Richard: Yes – quite unexpectedly – I just happened to be in the tunnel behind the track when he went through after receiving his gold medal in Beijing. It was good chatting to him. He was respectful of the Seventh-day Adventist faith, having grown up in the Church himself, and his mother still being a member.

Editor: Richard, do you still run today, or have you hung up your trainers for good?

Richard: I still enjoy trying to keep fit. I have challenged myself to go jogging and have entered a few 10k races.

Running early in the morning brings me a great sense of energy and vitalisation. The crisp cool air and the scenic route I run take me close to nature. As I run, my mind is cleared of various daily issues. Sermon ideas flow, and problems are solved. It leaves me feeling ready to face the day.

Daily exercise regardless of one's time commitments is something I recommend to everyone . . . it's part of our health message.

Editor: One last question, Richard: are you really glad to be running the Christian Race you've written about in your new book?

Richard: Absolutely. The wonderful thing about the apostle Paul's Christian race is that Christ is not on the sidelines cheering us on; neither is He at the finishing line saying, 'You can do it' . . . He is running with us in the race, with His arm around us, saying, 'We can do this together!'
A number of exciting Seventh-day Adventist programmes will be worth watching out for on TV this week. Revelation TV, in Newport at 8.30pm on Monday evenings, will be: **A ‘tearful’ exchange**

The students – even a French group from Collonges – also enjoyed the ‘tearful’ exchange at Leeds Central on Sabbath 11 February. The experience of sharing their personal stories was especially touching for the students. The students felt comfortable to share their experiences and feelings with each other in a safe and supportive environment.

### What’s on TV?

- **A ‘tearful’ exchange**
- **Four baptised on trip of a lifetime**
- **Baptism at Cardiff North**
- **Baptism at Leeds Central**

### Newbold College partners with University of Winchester

For the past few months Newbold College has spent much time preparing for institutional approval to become a partner institution of the University of Winchester. The college received such approval on Wednesday 28 March 2012 and is now permitted to submit its Theology programmes to the university for validation.

We are delighted that so much hard work has resulted in this recognition of what we do at Newbold College,’ said Dr John Baldam, deputy principal, who met with the institutional approval panel in Winchester. ‘We very much look forward to preparing our programmes for validation and to being part of the university’s Institute for Theological Partnerships.’ Professor Lisa Isherwood, director of the institute, stated that she was ‘absolutely delighted, as I know we will have a wonderful partnership that is flourishing for both parties.’

‘Partnering with the University of Winchester and now being able to present our degrees for validation is an exciting development’, said Dr Philip Brown, principal. ‘Having our quality undergraduate and postgraduate Theology programmes validated will allow all eligible students to get a student loan to cover their tuition costs in full each year.’

The University of Winchester lies just 45 miles south-west of Newbold College in the ancient capital of England. Its roots as an education provider extend back to 1840, with university title being bestowed in 2005.

The university celebrates its Christian foundation, encouraging those living within the Christian faith, while also welcoming those who live within other faiths and those with no faith. It includes within its ethos such values as intellectual freedom, social justice, diversity, spirituality, individual well-being, and creativity.

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**Newbold College partners with University of Winchester**

**News stories**

- Jennifer Grant, Jefferson Melki, Jaime Melki and Phillip Chackochen were baptised in the River Jordan during their recent visit to Israel. The baptism was all the more poignant since three of them were baptised by their fathers, Pastors Melki and Chackochen. Jennifer was baptised by Pastor Elliott Williams.

This was just one of the highlights of Pastor Philip Chackochen’s most recent Holy Land tour. If you would like to experience a Communion Service at the Garden Tomb, walk through Hezekiah’s tunnel, visit the home of Zacchaeus, float in the Dead Sea and climb to the fortress of Masada, then contact Pastor Chackochen on: 07748417460 or at chacko@onam.co.uk for details of his next tour.

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**Stanborough gets reading!**

On 1 March, Stanborough School joined in the celebration of World Book Day. From periods 4 to 6 all classes were suspended, and the time was devoted to reading. Students, many of whom came to school dressed as book characters, chose books from the school library or brought their own from home.

During (year 11) shared their experience: ‘World Book Day was amazing! The time we got to read was good because many students are so busy they never get a chance to really enjoy reading.’

The students – even a French group from Collonges – also enjoyed the speed-reading competition. As a result, on 2 March eighteen students received book awards. Congratulations to Luca, Stanimir and Oktay Kayo, Eva and Abigail, India and Hanaa, Ryan, Aaron, Joshua and Rohan, Emmanuel, Amber, Luke, Marvin, Vincius and Juliane and Benjamin.

Each student also received a token for a free book from the participating bookshops. A big thank-you to all teachers, students and parents for making World Book Day a success!

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**Baptism at Cardiff North**

Friends and well-wishers gathered at Cardiff North on Sabbath 25 February to watch the baptism of Jonathan Mwangalika, Claudiu Stranburu and Bryan Rowe in the church’s new mobile baptismal pool and the dedication of Jessica Mwangalika.

### Twenty-two Adventurers invested in Luton Central

Twenty-two Adventurers were invested and awarded honours at Luton Central on Sabbath 10 March, with some receiving up to seven honours. Inspired by the investiture, twelve new children joined the club the next Sunday. Luton Central now has a thriving junior section and adult ambassodorship, sharing traditions and ideas from their home countries. They also participated in lessons to improve their proficiency in English and went on trips to discover London and Cambridge. When the time to go home arrived, neither students nor teachers could keep their eyes dry!

Experiences like this foretell the beauty of Heaven, when all nations will be one. A special thanks goes to the team leaders, Joshua Roberts and Jason Doddar, for their fantastic work!
And There Was War – bigger and better ‘good and fallen angels’.

The play portrays the reasons for the "fall" of the angels. It follows the intimate challenges of a pregnant virgin Mary and her betrothed Joseph. Adam and Eve, Noah and his sons, the Crucifixion; all of these famous stories are interwoven creatively to tell an inspiring story.

Just like the first production, the second was a huge sell-out – in fact, many would-be guests had to be turned away.

The church is very grateful to all who contributed to the success of the production.

- E. ONISU

Faiths on fire!

After receiving training as lay preachers at the Advent Centre on 4 December last year, sixteen graduates assisted by preaching at revival meetings, held at the Horley, Gatwick and Redhill churches between 29 January and 11 February.

The seminars, under the theme of ‘Christ-centred Relationships’, covered several important issues affecting the Church in its relationship with Christ, and the church members expressed appreciation for being refreshed and renewed.

- WOLUHJ RUSTEMBE

Staying sober

Leicester Central Church recently held a successful health emphasis weekend. One of the elders, Mr Pfende, was their main speaker and challenged the members to keep their minds sharp. His main point was the need for us to be mentally alert for God to speak to and through us: ‘If our people were half awake, if they realised the nearness of the events portrayed in the Revelation, a reformation would be brought in our churches, and many more would believe the message.’

- PHELIP RWEIRED

Youth raise £1,137.13

A supporting ministry website is now available for single Seventh-day Adventists in the UK. To http://www.singleseventhdayadventists.com/. It’s a completely free social network in which single Seventh-day Adventists can fellowship and perhaps find life partners.

This can sometimes be difficult, because of the high ratio of women to men in the Church. Many church members have been unequally yoked, and left the Church as a result.

The other problem is that not all singles websites with ‘Adventist’ in the name are owned or administered by Seventh-day Adventists – and they charge a premium for the service, too. This website will be absolutely free.

Pastor Victor Hubert (BUC Communications director) and Pastor Paul Lockham (BUC executive secretary) are fully up to speed on the project, as is Heather Haworth (BUC Family Ministries director). Please pray for this website, and if possible put a link on your webpage!

Baptism at Coventry Central

On 16 February the Coventry Central church witnessed the baptism of six new members – four of whom were from the Henley Green branch. It was a happy moment when souls were brought to Christ. The members wish them God’s blessings.

Baptisms at Fartown and Huddersfield

On 4 February three people were baptised at the Huddersfield, Crosland Moor church: Walaza Nguwile from the Fartown company, and Tanro Nyamakanga and Rowen Mahlangu from Huddersfield. Pastor Cyril Sweeney, former pastor of the Huddersfield church, preached, and family and friends travelled from far and near to show their encouragement and support.

The Torquay church has a two or three bedroom flat available for rent. One apartment is furnished, the other is unfurnished. References are required. For further information, please contact Pastor Ian Lorek on 01626 830727.

Baptisms at Plymouth Church

On Easter Sabbath, 7 April, three people were baptised in the Plymouth church.

Paul Aluculesei, who has attended the church for some time and was raised in an Adventist home. Her parents, Julia and Graham, were among the twelve members of her family, including grandparents, who witnessed the event.

The church members welcome them all into the church family.

- ANDY PULLA

Good news for single Adventists!

EQUIP TO SERVE

Welsh Mission Health Ministries

Health Summit

Equip to Serve

Hebron Hall Christian Centre, Onza Pwoni, South Glamorgan, Wales

5-8 July 2012

Cost: £175 all-inclusive, £30 daily rate

Presenters: Sharon Platt-McDonald (WMB Health Ministries director)
Grace Walsh (NEC Health sponsor)

Topical: Forgive to Live; Stress Management; Food Hygiene; nutritional talks;

Topics:

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- Coventry Central's Youth department have organised a fundraising event as part of their youth day activities. On 17 December last year, and with the support of the members of the church, a total sum of £1,137.13 was raised and donated to

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Puppet ‘fun’ in Denmark
On the weekend of 16-18 March, Pastor Clyde Moore and his wife, Anette, Family and Children’s Ministry sponsors for the Welsh Mission, joined more than 100 local church leaders for the Danish Union’s ‘MakingWills’, ‘Grief Counselling’, the making and use of visual aids for children’s ministries, and puppet ministry.

Anette demonstrated how to make a puppet and then donated it to the Danish Union. She is planning to have a website in the future but for now, should anyone wish to order a puppet or invite her to conduct a puppet ministry workshop in their church, use:
anette.moore@yahoo.co.uk, or 07530 951297.

PASTOR CLYDE MOORE

Clapton men treat church mothers
On Sabbath, 24 March, the Clapton Community church’s men led the way in honouring mothers at a special Sabbath lunch.

‘Have you had enough soup, bread, juice?’ and ‘No, I’ll get that for you’ were the words of the men as they waited on the mothers and served them a delicious, home-cooked, three-course meal.

Led by Elder Bertram Patrice, the men, including Pastor David Burnett, took charge of the kitchen, while the mothers were invited to hang up their aprons, rest their weary feet and let the men fuss over them in the nicely decorated dining area.

In his speech, Elder Patrice emphasised that mothers play an intricate and valuable role in God’s plan, and that they ‘are appreciat-ed and will continue to be supported by the Clapton church family.’

It was a memorable Mother’s Day lunch. Who says men are useless in the kitchen?

KANDI COX

International night at the Spa
On Saturday, 10 March, Leamington Spa Mission hosted an international night. Organised by Nigel Clark, this has become an annual event at the church, and is suitable for both members and friends. More than fifty people came to taste and enjoy the native dishes of different countries and regions, including Brazil, Lithuania, Jamaica, St Lucia, Serbia, South Africa, Scotland, Canada and, of course, England. Neil Shuttleworth hosted the evening programme, which included a quiz and a variety of items from the different countries, including songs, instrumental items, video clips, and a poem. Among the instrumental pieces, the playing of the steel drum (Caribbean) and the Samba drums (Brazil) was especially appreciated.

LORRAINE GLINTON

No Easter eggs!
Over the Easter weekend, an outreach event was held at the Clacton-on-Sea church under the title, ‘Behold the Man’. The members, under the leadership of Elder Cynthia Austin, promoted the meetings to about 30,000 local residents, and Pastor Roy Chisholm was the main speaker.

TREVOR HARRIS

One hundredth birthday celebration at Rhyl
On Sabbath, 10 March, Rhyl Church celebrated the 100th birthday of one of its founding members, the much-loved and respected Mrs Eurwen Davies. Pastor David Foster paid tribute to her faithfulness in his sermon and urged the congregation not to ignore our senior members as being less valuable or to think that we are less valuable as we approach retirement.

Mrs Davies has served the Rhyl church for seventy-five years, as Sabbath School superintendent, church organist, church clerk, head deaconess and Children’s and Youth Sabbath School teacher, as well as providing beautiful flower arrangements each week.

The celebration included a reception after the Sabbath service, but the cards and flowers continued arriving well into the next week. Among the many well-wishers she received cards from: Her Majesty the Queen; The First Minister for Wales, the Rt Hon Carwyn Jones AC/MBE; the Secretary of State for Wales, the Rt Hon Cheryl Gillian; and the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, the Rt Hon Iain Duncan Smith.

Rhyl Church congratulates Mrs Davies on this important birthday. It is a privilege for us all to worship with her each Sabbath.

(On behalf of the BUC, the staff of MESSENGER wish to share their congratulations with Mrs Davies too – she is surely practising to live for eternity!) ASHGAR ROSMONTZ

Days of fellowship at Erdington
In August last year, the Erdington church men celebrated a special day of fellowship. Special features of the day were the guitar and music service, led by Pastor Murphy on his guitar, and a play entitled The Cruise of a Lifetime, which portrayed choosing either the Lord (eternity) or Satan (death and destruction).

On 29 November it was the turn of the Erdington church ladies, who attended a most enjoyable day of fellowship. A special feature was choir music, sung by the ladies themselves, and led by S. Davies as choir leader and A. Bunny as organist. Frederica Reid preached the sermon.

JOHN OSEI-BEMPONG

Lifestyle centre development
Two years ago, osteopath Andrew Lawson put out an advert via the BUC Health Ministries Department inviting Adventist health professionals to contact him in regards to setting up a clinic. To date he is operating four clinics in London and is seeking other health professionals to partner.

Additionally, he now has a vision to establish a lifestyle centre, and is needing interested parties to contact him. Adventist osteopaths, chiropractors, podiatrists, physiotherapists, doctors, nurses, nutrionists, Cranial osteopaths, massage therapists, clinical staff, administrators and businesswomen and women are invited to contact Andrew on 07844276767.

If they are interested in the establishment of a Lifestyle Centre.

MEGAN RISKOWITZ

Puppet ‘fun’ in Denmark
On the weekend of 16-18 March, Pastor Clyde Moore and his wife, Anette, Family and Children’s Ministry sponsors for the Welsh Mission, joined more than 100 local church leaders for leadership training at Himmerlandgarden, the Danish Union campsite. Together with Dr Paul Tomkins, TED Youth director, they were there to present seminars and devotions. A wide range of topics was covered, including ‘Making Wills’, ‘Grief Counselling’, the making and use of visual aids for children’s ministries, and puppet ministry.

Anette demonstrated how to make a puppet and then donated it to the Danish Union. She is planning to have a website in the future but for now, should anyone wish to order a puppet or invite her to conduct a puppet ministry workshop in their church, use: anette.moore@yahoo.co.uk, or 07530 951297.

PASTOR CLYDE MOORE

SEC Junior Camp 2012
29 July - 5 August
Chapel Porth, Cornwall
Cost: £125
Deposit: £25 (non-refundable)
Deadline for application & payment 2 July
After 2 July cost £140
For more information & application pack
Visit: www.secyouth.co.uk/pathfinders
Or contact SEC Pathfinder Dept on
01923 232 728
sworrell@secadventist.org.uk
Rugby has a top team!

Members of the Rugby church once again went out on Sunday 15 April, the last day in (most of) Wales and (the Adare) 2012, to make sure that all houses were visited around the world. This was the first time that we have seen these people in all Rugby know what ADRA does here in the UK and abroad.

Who was Trayvon Martin?

Trayvon Martin was a young black 17-year-old killed on 26 February 2012 under suspicious circumstances in Florida, USA, by a neighbourhood watch volunteer who reportedly described him as looking ‘suspicious’.

There were no witnesses to the killing and the volunteer has pleaded self-defence, which under Florida State law offers a full, irredeemable defence, allowing the shooter to walk free.

So what has Trayvon Martin to do with us?

Tottenham hosted a vigil to participate in an hour-long vigil for Trayvon Martin on the steps of Hackney Town Hall scheduled for Wednesday 28 March at 6pm – but with only two days’ notice!

Despite the ridiculous time constraints – and due to amazing teamwork – the event went off without a hitch behind a 200-strong crowd. It was an amazingly sunny evening. Molly welcomed everyone. Diane Abbott, MP for Hackney North and Stoke Newington, instrumental in the fight against the ‘sus’ law of the ‘80s, turned up unannounced. She met Trayvon’s family, with their songs and praise between each speech or poem. They lit candles and closed the event with a final song, ‘This Little Light of Mine’, while we handed out our books: When God Said Remember and Steps to Christ, stamped with our church contact address and TSC cards inside.

So what has Trayvon Martin to do with us?

Although we will never understand from happening, God can use them as platforms to open doors and spread His word. We can’t bring the Trayvon Martins of this world back, but perhaps we can bring the community a little closer together.

For footage of the event go to: http://www.youtube.com/user/TSCvcrhs/
Newbold College appointments

Newbold College of Higher Education is operated by the Seventh-day Adventist Church and located about 40 miles west of London, United Kingdom.

**Director of Student Services** — a senior management position providing vision, leadership, planning, direction, and review of student services operations. The position manages and oversees support programmes necessary to ensure student success and a quality campus life experience. The post holder will contribute to the strategic plan of the college and plans and implements opportunities for student growth and development. The position also develops policies and procedures for student services and student programmes, assures student satisfaction, student growth and development, oversees the family housing community, and supervises the Student Services team and support staff.

**The Dean of Men and Dean of Women** are full-time, line-in-professional positions which oversee the comprehensive living and learning environments of Keswick House (men’s hall of residence) and Schuil House (women’s hall of residence), and provide an environment in which the Christian life of all the students living on campus can be protected, fostered and strengthened. (Effective 1 August 2012.)

**The Cashier** is a full-time position and applications are invited from persons who have an accounting qualification and excellent track record in processing payments, reconciling accounts, and maintaining cash floats; reconciling cash on hand accounts and credit card transactions; maintaining a purchase ledger and reconciling with suppliers; issuing statements for internal telephone accounts; and customer service work. (Effective 1 July 2012.)

For further information including selection criteria and the application process, please visit: www.newbold.ac.uk. Informal enquiries to the principal, Dr Philip Brown, on +44(0)1344 407400 (email: pbrown@newbold.ac.uk) for the first three positions, and to the bursar, Mrs Berit K. Lisle, on +44(0)1344 407403 (email: blisle@newbold.ac.uk) for the fourth position. Applications must be received by 25 May 2012.

Applicants must be able to demonstrate that they have the right to work in England.

**ABC Shops**

**Wallingford, OX10** 12.30–5pm, Monday–Thursday 10am–2pm, Friday

**Birmingham Aston-Newtown** 11am–4pm, Wednesday 4pm–8pm, Thursday 9am–1pm, Friday 11am–3pm, Sunday Advent Centre

Mondays & Wednesdays, 6.30pm–8.30pm Sundays, 11am–3pm

The Editor may alter, clarify, précis or expand articles sent to him if he thinks it necessary.

Published fortnightly on Fridays by the British Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

Printed in the UK.

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

ISSN 0309-3654

**ABC Book Sales**

May

20 Leeds 9am-6pm
23 Aberdeen 5.30-8.30pm
24 Dundee 2-8pm
25 Edinburgh 1-6.30pm
27 Glasgow 10am-2pm
27 Manchester South 10am-2pm

**MESSENGER SUBSCRIPTIONS**