As Peter and John entered the temple they found a crippled man begging at the gate. This was Peter’s response: ‘Silver or gold I do not have, but what I do have I give you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, walk.’ Then they helped him up and he went with them ‘walking and jumping, and praising God. (Acts 3:6, 8, NIV.)

Our nation’s focus, when it comes to ‘walking and jumping’ and other such athletic acts, is the 2012 Olympics. But like the beggar of Acts 3, we want our fellow countrymen to discover that there is more to life than gold or silver medals. We want them to discover the good news about Jesus Christ!

To make this happen, the British Union Conference (BUC) has planned a special Olympic Prayer Focus on 23 June. This will be our chance to pray for the various outreaches and to make sure we have ours carefully planned.

Evangelism without prayer is like a stick of dynamite without a burning fuse – and we can help light that fuse on 23 June!

One way will be to pray for those who have chosen to connect with their communities through the health ministry. For more information see the www.adventist.org.uk home page and click on Olympic Live. There are also resources and news of events on www.live-uk.org, including an evangelism pack with a variety of ways of sharing Jesus. There are further resources on www.morethangoldresources.org.uk, and don’t forget that the Children’s Ministries department has suitable materials on a sports theme for Holiday Bible Schools. This is also a great time to hand out our Bible Discovery Centre invitation cards or motivate your church to run its own Discover Bible School (DBS) (wwwdiscoveronline.org.uk).

Another way is to pray for the South England Conference programmes that are connecting with the More Than Gold project. The Youth department has trained young people to participate in religious activities during the Olympics. Family and Health Ministries are linking together in the Torch Relay evangelism in the church districts of Peterborough, Norwich, Chelmsford, Reading, Ipswich and Colchester.

You can also pray that the excellent resources shared at the BUC ‘ShareHim’ training session by Pastor Robert Folkenberg, a former GC president, will not sit on a shelf and collect dust. Include the Church leaders and ministers in the BUC in your prayers – ask God for them to help you fulfil your evangelistic potential by working with you in the use of these resources.

In the account of the healed man doing ‘holy aerobics’, it was his praising God that really caught the attention of the crowd. If our evangelism is to just catch people’s admiration then it is not accomplishing its aim – focusing people on Jesus. The only way to successfully bring people to Jesus is to do the same as Peter and John did: pray. Yes, it was no accident that it was at the time of prayer that a miracle transformed the cripple’s life. The early disciples based their ministry on prayer. For them prayer came first!

The More Than Gold Olympic prayer team has developed a prayer guide, available on www.morethangold.org.uk/prayer, where they suggest five ‘P’ topics for the Olympic prayer focus:

Planning. Pray for the London organising committee as they prepare and run this event.
Places. Pray that the various places around the UK, where the Games are being hosted, will be touched with the presence of God.
Participants. Pray that those participating will do so honourably and encounter the living God.
Power. Pray that all Christians will ‘seize’ this opportunity to speak and show the love of Jesus.
Purpose. Pray that your kingdom come and your will be done’ will relate to every aspect of the Games.

Other ideas for a prayer ministry in your church are available from the Olympic Prayer Guide, on the Prayer Ministries page on the BUC website, www.adventist.org.uk.

We encourage you to engage your church in the forthcoming projects being promoted across the BUC – and, most importantly, we would like to invite you to pray for God’s guidance during the Olympics. Don’t just pray for the five ‘P’ s, but also for the safety of our country, for the opportunity to see God glorified through the achievements of the Olympians, and for our Church to make a positive impact in the community.

Be sure to join us on 23 June when, as a Church, we will engage in a prayer ministry for the Olympics – for something more valuable than gold or silver medals: the spreading of the Gospel!
During the early hours of Monday morning, 30 April, a gang of thieves broke into our building and stole the computers used by our prepress, editorial, proof-reading and design team.

Fortunately, most of the work was safely backed up, but the loss of this equipment has severely affected the production schedule of our magazines and books.

Before our team could do anything, they had to clean up the mess! Then there was the process of obtaining replacement quotes, clearing them with the insurers, buying and installing the new equipment, then getting it all to work smoothly again.

Besides the usual Microsoft Office software, we use a variety of very specialised design packages, all of which needed to be carefully restored to each workstation. This has been done successfully and this morning our designers were able to get back to their normal work for the first time!

The first job for them to finish is this MESSAGE (issue 11) that was due to reach you on 25 May. Accordingly, we expect that we will complete the second issue of FOCUS for 2012, hoping to get it off to the printers by the middle of next week. Then we will try to get the MESSAGE due on 8 June (issue 12) and 22 June (issue 13) out as close to their publication dates as possible.

Please pray for our team of designers, David Bell and Abigail Murphy — who, between all these magazine deadlines, still need to find the time to finish the books they have been working on. Spare a thought too for Stephen Holden, who manages our prepress department, as he tries to get things back on schedule. He has been under immense pressure.

Lastly, we appreciate your kindness, and wish to assure you that we are doing our best to meet our deadlines.

Warmly,

Jon, the EDITOR

A special note: MESSAGE is scheduled to appear twenty-six times per annum. Twenty-four of these issues are sixteen-page magazines, while two of them have twenty-four pages each. The magazines appear approximately every second week, but in May we usually have only one issue of twenty-four pages in order to make up for the shorter working weeks caused by Easter and certain bank holidays. Later in the year we run another bumper issue of twenty-four pages, but this is usually at the editor’s discretion, and allows us to process the backlog of news or run something on a special theme.

During my ministry I have opened hundreds of garden gates — most of which have carried some form of warning about the resident dog (or dogs), but nothing about the residents. In some cases, it would have been more appropriate the other way round, but let me stick with dogs.

This 32 simple sign, ‘Beware of the dog’, has provided me with more surprises than I care to talk about. They include a bitten ankle, a ripped hand, scratched car doors, shredded egs and more layers of viscous dog saliva than I care to remember — fortunately, however, I have never been mistaken for a lamp post!

A bull terrier

Now, some summer afternoon in a quiet village, while I was doing my best to make sense of someone’s heartache, the street outside suddenly filled with the sound of savage barking. My hosts poured from the house, vauling their pets by name!

I followed with more decorum — but quickly hurried forward when I saw what was happening. Three nondescript dogs locked together in mortal combat with a bull terrier. Three adults, trying to tear a dog each from the fray — and some hysterical children clinging to their mother’s skirt!

What is the passerby’s duty at a time like this? Take the children to safety? Phone the police? Ask the watching neighbours to join the tug of war? Unfortunately, the Minister’s Manual is mute on how to handle emergencies of this nature!

The terrier’s tail

I chose to grab the bull terrier’s wagging tail!

But before you censure my strategy or laugh too loudly . . . by lifting his hind legs off the ground I had weakened his position. He could no longer use his powerful hindquarters to push forward against the weaker animals. After a few minutes of lifting, the now breathless terrier gasped, and one dog slipped loose. Then, before his jaws clamped hold of one of the other victims, the owners managed to yank them away.

‘Thank God, I thought, ‘it’s over’!

The terrier growled . . .

Gates banged shut. Silence settled over the street while the terrier looked over his right shoulder and growled.

His tail still wagged, but not with the joy of victory — did he want revenge?

I was the last man standing . . . left alone holding his tail . . . keeping those scurrying hindquarters in the air . . . but for how long?

My subsequent research confirmed that the average bull terrier weighs in at between 45 and 80 pounds. I was getting tired!

I have also since learned that bull terrier owners must have a securely fenced garden at least 40 ft high. THIS IS ESSENTIAL. The thin

The last man standing . . .

Jap wood fencing is no use at all. Bull terriers have been known to go straight through it when in pursuit of a cat!” (Author’s emphasis, not mine.) Such information, had I known it then, would not have curbed my growing fear!

‘Dreadfully affected dog’? I called out to anyone who would listen — bbling back an adjective I thought I had forgotten.

Someone pointed at a nearby house. Cautionally I began to steer the grumbling beast towards the gate. It moved reluctantly, just like a really white cane wheelchair would. Eventually, when we reached the gate, I shoved the terrier through and slammed it closed.

The last man standing

It wasn’t easy to be the last man standing . . . in that silent street. Alone. Abandoned by those I came to help.

It is never easy to be alone, holding the ‘terminer’s tail’ — the last man standing for someone, or against something!

Both secular and sacred history is full of examples of those who chose to be among the last men (or women) standing:

Moses was one of those men. After all that God had done for Israel, the people, aided by Aaron, slipped back into degrading pagan worship. Within sight of His slaughtered glory, and within earshot of the rolling thunder above, Israel chose to bow to a golden calf. But not Moses: he chose to be the last man standing! (Exodus 32:19-36.)

Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego were three more of those men. Hundreds, perhaps thousands of Hebrew youths grovelled in the dust of Durah’s plain, paying homage to Nebuchadnezzar’s crude distortion of God’s revelation. But not these three young men: they were willing to be the last man standing!

They stayed standing!

Now there is something worth noting about the position taken by these three young men that day in Babylon. They stood bravely for what they believed and were ready to bear the king’s swift and savage retribution — but did something almost unheard of in ancient times.

He calls them to him. He addresses them by their first names: ‘Is it true, Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, that you do not serve my gods or worship the image of gold I have set up?’ (Daniel 3:14, NVK.)

Then, in the face of this national affront to his power and dignity, the king does the unheard of — he gives them a second chance!

Listen chaps, … if you are ready to fall down and worship the image I made, very good . . .”, and we’ll leave things there — with no offence meant, and none taken!

‘Listen chaps, “. . . if you are ready (Adapted from Daniel 3:15, NIV.) Wow – what an honour. What a special opportunity to enjoy the king’s favour!

Also with astudio children, I have been amazed at the power of food to calm aggresive, behaviour, concentration, and even improve communication and connection.

I would say that food is not a replacement for medication; as food can affect both the types of medication and the levels of medication needed. So if you are on medication, working with your doctor alongside a nutritionist is recommended.”

Annette’s example of using dietary advice as a form of therapeutic intervention is borne out in emerging research.

A report by the SBC, dated Wednesday, 26 October 2006, highlighted the outcome of research on curcumin, a bioactive compound found in turmeric. The research was undertaken by Dr Sharon McKenna and her team at the Cork Cancer Research Centre. They found that curcumin started to kill cancer cells within twenty-four hours and cells began digesting themselves, after the curcumin triggered lethal cell death signals.

Dr McKenna reports: ‘Scientists have known for a long time that natural compounds have the potential to treat fauly cells that have become cancerous and we suspected that curcumin might have therapeutic value.’ She further states: ‘These exciting results suggest that scientists could develop curcumin as a potential anti-cancer drug to treat oesophageal cancer.’

Responding to the findings, Dr Lesley Walker, director of cancer research, said: ‘This is interesting research, which opens up the possibility that natural chemicals found in turmeric could be developed into new treatments for oesophageal cancer.’

Next issue, shines current research on suggested "healing" foods. Good health!
Faith is great cop-out, the great excuse to evade the need to think and evaluate evidence. Faith is belief in spite of, even perhaps because of, the visible and experiential evidence."Show me a miracle!" Prime Minister. And he pressed a button on his desk, and missiles flew to their pre-ordained destinations, and H-bombs split the world asunder, and radioactivity killed every mortal thing.

"I can raise the dead", said God. And God caused the sea to divide. And God caused frogs to descend upon the land. And soon the land was free of water. So the visible, tangible evidence that modern man in his arrogance has forgotten God, or, rather, has deliberately chosen to ignore Him. The miracles clearly visible around us are just brushed aside as coincidences or chance happenings.

God and the Prime Minister. 'Who are you?' said the Prime Minister, opening the door. 'I'm God', replied the Stranger. 'I don't believe you', said the Prime Minister. "Show me a miracle!"

And God showed the Prime Minister the miracle of birth. 'Pooh, that's nothing!' said the Prime Minister. 'My scientists are creating life in test tubes and have nearly solved the secret of heredity. Artificial insemination is more than your lack-ad Casuistic method, and by cross-breeding we are producing fish and mammals to our own design. Show me a proper miracle!' And God caused the sky to darken, and hails came pouring down.

The Prime Minister picked up the telephone on his desk. 'Get in touch with the met office and tell them to send up a mat plane and sprinkle the clouds with silver iodide crystals, will you? And the next plane went up and sprinkled the clouds which had darkened the sky. And the hailstones stopped pouring down, and the sun shone brightly.

'Show me another!' And God caused a plague of frogs to descend upon the land. The Prime Minister picked up his telephone. 'Get in touch with the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries and instruct them to procure a frog-killer as myxomatosis killed rabbits.' And soon the land was free of frogs. And the people gave thanks to the Prime Minister and erected laboratories in his name. 'Show me another!' And God caused the sea to divide.

The Prime Minister picked up his telephone. 'Er... I lob a few ICBMs into Antarctica and meet the ice cap will you, old man?' And the ice cap melted into water, and the sea came rushing back. 'I can kill all firstborn', said God.

'Patry tricks!' said the Prime Minister. And he pressed a button on his desk, and missiles flew to their pre-ordained destinations, and H-bombs split the world asunder, and radioactivity killed every mortal thing. 'I can raise the dead', said the Prime Minister, in his cardboard coffin. 'Let me live again!' Why? Who are you? Who are you? said God, closing the lid.

Yes, the truth is there for all who want to see it. And, as both Peter and the parable chillingly remind us, God will have the last word.

As Paul says in the earlier text in Romans, the evidence is so clear that "we are without excuse. But believing the evidence alone is not enough. Pharaoh's problem was not disbelief, but rather, his attitude, his hardness of heart, to the irrefutable evidence laid before him. True, but that's not me, we all chorus. We would never echo the arrogant words of the apocryphal prime minister, nor develop coronary problems like Pharaoh. But before we get too smug, we might ask ourselves, Are there any similarities? Do we ever get above ourselves, and if not exactly Pharaoh out altogether, leave Him on the sidelines, perhaps? I fancy the answer is often yes.

So, what's the remedy? It's the same for all of us – pharaohs, prime ministers, and you and me. Remember. As soon as each plague came to an end, Pharaoh forgot how incom-traversable it had demonstrated the power of God. One of the problems that gave rise to the less-than-ideal behaviour of the children of Israel throughout the wilderness years was that they forgot – forgot the God who had redeemed and sustained them so spectacularly. Even the disciples who followed Jesus were guilty of the same loss of memory. One day, just after the feeding of the 4,000, they were concerned as they had forgotten to take bread with them in their boat. Jesus rebuked them with the words: 'Do you still not see or understand? Are your hearts hardened? Do you have eyes but fail to see, and ears but fail to hear? And don't you remember? Mark 8:17, 18, NIV, emphasis supplied.

Of course, remembering really translates into having sufficient faith to keep on trusting. Yes, we have the evidence of the creative power of God before our eyes. But more than that, we also have the evidence of God's providence in our lives – past and present. Hasn't the One who promised to supply all our needs and never to forsake us proved Himself time and again? The visible, tangible evidence might prove to be clever men like Richard Dawkins that there is no God. Our visible and experiential evidence proves the opposite. Because God has so graciously revealed Himself to us, he deserves to be Number One in our lives. Let's not be guilty of relating Him to the sidelines. Let's make Him our focus and allow Him to be in charge today and every day.
**What is AMEN?**

**Editor:** John Blanchard, quoting Gould, wrote, ‘As far as the existence of God was concerned, “we simply can’t comment on it as scientists.” ’

**Dr Levy:** Firstly, let us briefly describe our family. Being an Adventist doctor doesn’t necessarily mean that you are automatically a ‘medical evangelist’. Secondly, access useful resources, like some of the books by Dr Neil Nedley for example, the Vibrant Life magazine, and the sermons on medical evangelism by Dr. E. H. Finley. There are plenty more resources available on the ABC.

Dr Levy: There are few and fewer people who identify with God or religion, but that doesn’t mean we should be impervious to the Gospel. Health evangelism is a golden opportunity for us to make an impact in people’s lives. For example, those who are suffering from heart disease, asthma, diabetes, cancer, etc. are more likely to respond to the Gospel when they are feeling unwell. So, we should seize the opportunity to share the Gospel with them.

Dr Levy: It is true that in the UK fewer and fewer people identify with God or religion, but that doesn’t mean that we should be impervious to the Gospel. Health evangelism is a golden opportunity for us to make an impact in people’s lives. For example, those who are suffering from heart disease, asthma, diabetes, cancer, etc. are more likely to respond to the Gospel when they are feeling unwell. So, we should seize the opportunity to share the Gospel with them.

If you are a doctor, you have a unique opportunity to reach people in their moment of need. People are more open to hear the Gospel when they are in pain, or when they are in the hospital, or when they are in a crisis. So, we should not waste this opportunity. We should use our platform to share the Gospel with people.

Dr Levy: What are the key things that you can do as a doctor to be successful in health evangelism?

Dr Levy: First, be a believer in the health message. Being an Adventist doctor doesn’t necessarily mean that you are automatically a ‘medical evangelist’. Secondly, access useful resources, like some of the books by Dr Neil Nedley for example, the Vibrant Life magazine, and the sermons on medical evangelism by Dr. E. H. Finley. There are plenty more resources available on the ABC.

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Editor: David, I regard you as a prime example of the ‘extreme’ Adventist – someone who lives a life of wholesome faith – and is always packed and ready for adventure. Take a minute to introduce yourself to our readers.

David: My parents became Adventists in Belfast during the post-war years, so I was brought up as an Adventist. Sadly, however, I’m an only child because my mother contracted tuberculosis soon after I was born. She died when I was about 9.

Editor: That must have been a real setback of the family?

David: Indeed. But because my mother was a married in Iceland in 1967. We have two lovely girls and five smashing grandchildren aged between 6 and 21.

Editor: What about the family?

David: Lin and I met at Newbold and were married in Iceland for eight years. You must be good with languages?

Editor: Yes, I was fortunate to be born with a bit of an Irish accent because my mother contracted tuberculosis soon after I was born. She died when I was about 9.

David: My parents became Adventists in Belfast during the post-war years, so I was brought up as an Adventist. Sadly, however, I’m an only child because my mother contracted tuberculosis soon after I was born. She died when I was about 9.

Editor: What must have been a real setback for you.

David: Indeed. But because my mother was a bed-ridden invalid, I gradually realised how fortunate I was to have good health – of mind and body. So, as an adolescent, I decided to develop those precious gifts to serve God and others – and in memory of my brave mum.

Editor: David, I believe that you speak Icelandic, and that you served in Iceland for eight years. You must be good with languages?

David: Yes, I was fortunate to be born with the ‘brain of a parrot’! I spent eight years as a preceptor (dean of boys) both in Iceland and at Stanborough School on two different occasions. Besides that I served various churches in Iceland, South England, Scotland and briefly in Manchester. The last six years of my ministry were spent in Ipswich and Bury St Edmunds, and I retired in 2006 at the age of 63.

Editor: What about the family?

David: Lin and I met at Newbold and were married in Iceland in 1967. We have two lovely girls and five smashing grandchildren aged between 6 and 21.

Editor: Now tell us briefly about your passion for the outdoors.

David: Nature and the great outdoors always fascinated me as a young person. When we lived in Iceland I was enthralled by the rugged, uninhabited interior of the country and I still go back every summer to explore its amazing landscapes.

Editor: How long before dreams became reality?

David: It took ten years! In 2008, while in the Dolomites I caught sight of a via ferrata route at about 8,000 feet and took a closer look. The following summer, 2009, Lin and I returned, and with hired equipment I took on the challenge.

Editor: What was that first climb like, David?

David: It was an ‘out of this world’ experience which I will never ever forget! On the second day I did Brigata Tridentina – 2,000 vertical feet, five hours up and three hours down by a different route. I was hooked! I came home, bought my own equipment, and now look forward each summer to trying different routes.

Editor: Well, David, I have decided to let your photos tell the rest of the story – they will give our readers a real taste of this ‘extreme’ recreational pursuit. But before I let you go . . . just tell them what via ferrata does for your soul.

David: Via ferrata climbing high in the Dolomites provides me with thrills – without spills. If I connect the carabiners of my safety harness to the fixed cable I am basically safe, even with a sheer drop of hundreds of feet below me. I still have to exert myself, but I can concentrate on climbing without the fear of falling to my death.

Editor: Via ferrata . . .

David: This is the Italian for ‘road of iron’ and it describes a mountain route equipped with fixed cables, stemples [rungs], ladders, and bridges. The use of these allows otherwise isolated routes to be joined to create longer routes which are accessible to people with a wide range of climbing abilities. Walkers and climbers can follow via ferrata without needing to use their own ropes and belays, and without the risks associated with unprotected scrambling and climbing.

Editor: Via ferrata . . .

David: Thanks David. Through via ferrata you seem to live life on the edge – or should I say, ‘ledge’. Just take care up there!

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Some sources indicate that the first via ferrate were laid out in Austria for recreational use during the nineteenth century. The modern via ferrate in the Dolomites date back to the Great War. They were put in use during the nineteenth century. The modern via ferrate in the Dolomites date back to the Great War. They were put in use during the nineteenth century.
When I joined the RAF I swore allegiance to King George VI,’ says Bill Cowin. ‘Since I became a Seventh-day Adventist in 1955 my allegiance has been to God. It is all a question of allegiance.’

In January 2012 Bill Cowin ended his sermon by stating that it was his final sermon, and that his first sermon had been preached almost exactly fifty-six years previously. The church building is different from the one Bill and Nancy, his wife of sixty-two years, joined when they were baptised by Pastor Bernard Walton in May 1955. Nancy and Bill were two of six baptised at Liverpool. ‘God wants quality more than quantity,’ Pastor Walton had said. ‘His words were prophetic in one sense,’ Bill says. ‘All those baptised have stayed in the Church.’ Their sense of allegiance has been strong. ‘We gave God our allegiance through thick and thin,’ says Bill.

Bill Cowin was raised in Liverpool, married Nancy Couch, and had his educationinterrupted by service in World War Two as an air gunner flying in Lancaster aircrafts. The engineering firm that had employed Bill, Automatic Telephone & Electric Company, took him back when the war ended. Bill was keen to get on in engineering. His tertiary and higher education, including his engineering degree, was obtained by years at night school. As a consequence, he joined the RAF in May 1942. ‘I accepted tithing without a question and I tithed my salary.’ Bill still continues: ‘I accepted tithing without a question and I tithed my salary. ’

In January 2012 Bill Cowin offered his final sermon. ‘I accepted tithing without a question and I tithed my salary. ’

The ninety-plus 4-12-year-olds in the Heir Force studied Creation, the days of Creation, and sang ‘We Are Soldiers in the ARME’. Beulah Plunkett, Rochelle Wilkinson, Zelma Porter, Tamara Bloom, Heather Haworth, and others were their ‘equation leaders’. The children created a giant mural of the Garden of Eden and came rushing in each day, insisting that their parents hurry up!

In addition to the camp’s spiritual nurture, on Sunday night the clarion call was ‘Forward on our knees’ was the clarion call of the five-day ARME (‘arm me’) Bible camp run from 5 to 9 April by Alan Hush (founder of Power of the Lamb Ministries), Martin Kim (Communications director for Adventist Southeast Asia Projects), Adam Ramdin (evangelist and PEACE Centre of Evangelism director), Philip Zechariah (associate director and Oteash co-ordinator of the Institute For Evangelism in Lady Lake, Florida) and Christopher Kramp (PEACE graduate, Bible worker and evangelist). As many leaders attended as adults, and they engaged in ‘spiritual muscle building’ with worship, prayer, lectures, and workshops to prepare them for ‘spiritual battle’.

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Flying squad’ reaches runway

Twenty-three health ministry enthusiasts from the churches of Devon and Cornwall trained, over the weekend of 21-22 April, to become a new ‘flying squad’ for the SEC’s Area 1. Elsie Staple ... Theteam officially start this role after helping run the area’s health check display at the Royal Cornwall Show in June.

Hats off to our youth

The youth of Lodge Causeway hosted a Valentine banquet on Saturday 18 February, to raise money for the Music department.

Area 8 day of fellowship

On 28 April, more than 700 Seventh-day Adventists from twelve churches across Suffolk, Essex, Norfolk and Cambridgeshire met at Trinity Park, Ipswich, for their annual day of fellowship.

Heaven rejoices for two at Wembley

Even though the Wembley International Seventh-day Adventist group had only been around for a year, they had two more baptisms on Sabbath 11 February 2012 – taking the total number of baptisms in a year to 6! North Wembley Church allowed the group to use their church for the baptism of Viposshika Robin and Pavitra Thamarajasingam by Pastor John Melki. Viposshika had been struggling to accept the Sabbath even after her husband got baptised, but the Holy Spirit would not leave her out! Nineteen-year-old Pavitra had made the decision a long time ago, but circumstances prevented her from getting baptised sooner. She could not stop smiling all afternoon, and she says it was the best day of her life! The service was led by Elder Brother Burton (North Wembley), and Pastor Paul Willmott (Wembley International) preached to them in Tamil and English.

New home for Llandrindod Wells Church

Approximately twenty years ago, Pat and Ifor Gimson started a house group in Llandrindod Wells with Olwen and Beth Jones, and were later joined by Doctor Eric Syme and his wife Cecily Syme (née Kent). At first, meetings were held in members’ homes, but later they moved to a school in Llanweddil, Builth Wells, before renting a small church room from the United Reformed Church in Llandrindod Wells. Membership rose to thirty-three.

Now the company has moved to a chapel school room in Llandrindod Wells. The new address is: The School Room, Albert Hall Theatre, Ilton Road, Llandrindod Wells, LD1 6AS. All visitors are assured of a warm welcome!

Erdington Church gains new members

After being baptised at Handsworth Park in Birmingham on 3 September last year, as a result of Pavilion of Hope evangelistic meetings, Heather Crewe transferred her membership to the Erdington church where she now worships with her two sons.

Then, on 22 October, Kendrick Fagan and Opal Farrell were baptised at the Erdington church by Pastor Orlando Holder. Erdington Church members wish all three new members blessings in their fellowship.

The Erdington nativity play 2011

The Erdington Pathfinders’ Club worked hard throughout the year, and finally put on a stunning nativity play last Christmas Eve. The church gives thanks to all the young people, the organisers and the visitors who came together to give glory to God.

Erdington

PASTOR CHRIS PEAKE

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First Newbold College student awarded PhD through research degrees provision

Congratulations to Marko Lukic from Serbia on his successful candidate for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy by Research at the University of Wales, Trinity Saint David.

Marko Lukic will be the first Newbold College student to be awarded a PhD through our research degrees provision, confirmed Dr Philip Brown, principal of Newbold College.

He will have his degree conferred on 13 July 2012 in Lampeter. The title of Marko’s thesis is: ‘Early Adventism and Paradigm Change: A Study of Presuppositions in Core Adventist Doctrines’.

Running for ADRA

Manchester Southern Asia members participated in the NEC ADRA Fun Run in Leeds on 25 March, being encouraged by Pastor Mike Simpson and Pastor Cyril Sweiny, the NEC president. Their participation reminded them of the pains and struggles for survival that many people face every day, and also prompted a positive response from donors. They look forward to more opportunities to serve the Lord, and would like to encourage other church members to join them in giving to ADRA’s Master’s service.

Family enrichment at Wolverhampton Central

Sabbath afternoon, 10 March, saw the start of a six-day Family Life series at Wolverhampton Central: ‘Straight Talk About Love, Intimacy and Commitment’. The series will be concluded on Sabbath afternoon, 17 March, with the project coordinator, Pastor Paul Haxworth, leading a worship service. The theme for the series was very well received and the project coordinator was pleased with the many positive comments that he has received.

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Piano recital funds raises funds for ADRA

On Thursday 12 April, Leslie Riskowitz, UUMA-ADRA, concert pianist and member of Rhy Church, gave an inspirational piano recital to raise funds for ADRA at Ffynnoncrwgr Community Centre. Leslie, an experienced and skilled teacher, was interpreting works by Bach, Beethoven, Mozart, Schumann, Chopin and Debussy, including ‘Moonlight Sonata’ and ‘Clair de Lune’, to glorify God, Author of musical splendour. Refreshments were served after the concert, and £35 was given for the ADRA Appeal.

The Winning Way – 30th Anniversary

11th-17th June

CAMP MEETING 2012

Haven Hand Hall, Wrexham

Wednesday 6th June – Friday 8th June

We believe that the following words express the joy and inspiration that we experienced during this memorable event.

We are grateful for the many kind words and encouragement we received from the attendees. We trust that they will be an encouragement to all who read them.

Newbold appoints new college chaplain

Congratulations to Pastor Paul Golt, a warm, caring pastor with a clear passion to share Christ and His love – Paul will be Newbold College’s new chaplain starting in the new academic year.

Lavine Monique McReynolds (1989-2012)

All the joy we ever needed was captured in her smile. She filled our world with sunshine, if only for a while.

The young lady who knew her, Lavine was a beautifully brave girl who always wore a smile with such confidence and joy. She had a smile that could light up a whole room. Her smile was infectious, and it made everyone around her feel better.

Lavine’s life was driven by a thirst to love others, and she never held back from showing that love. She was known for her kind and gentle nature, and she had a way of making everyone feel welcome and included.

Lavine’s passion was music, and she was an accomplished pianist. She loved to share her talent with others, and she often performed at church events and community gatherings. Lavine’s music was a source of comfort and inspiration to many.

Lavine’s death was a personal loss to those who knew her, and it was a reminder of the fragility of life. However, her memory will live on through the love and kindness that she shared with others.

Lavine’s memorial service was held on 15 April at St Albans Parish, attended by a large number of friends, family and church members.

At the service, Pastor Paul Golt, the new chaplain of Newbold College, paid tribute to Lavine’s life and legacy. He shared how much she had meant to the community and how her spirit continued to inspire others.

Lavine is remembered as a kind, compassionate, and loving person who touched the lives of many. She will be greatly missed, but her memory will live on through the love and kindness that she shared with others.

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Exeter stars
Sheila Allen and Angela Waldron have been the star collectors for ADRA in Exeter Church for over a quarter of a century. This year they collected £1,283.01 between them out of the total of £2,086.01 for the whole church!

They cover the same territories every year, and some people expect their annual knock on the door! Sheila and Angela enjoy meeting the people – and, even though both of them experience health issues, they feel compelled to do all they can. Angela said, ‘There is so much need in this world, and that’s what keeps us going.’ Sheila will be 80 this year, and she tells people, ‘At my age I wouldn’t be climbing all these steps and walking up and down long pathways if I didn’t believe in the charity.’ Both ladies are greatly respected for their compassion and commitment in their communities.

STELLA JEFFERY

New book of the week
Natural Lifestyle Cooking

Ernestine Finley

Join Mark and Teenie Finley for dinner in this large, warmly illustrated vegetarian cookbook with mouth watering delicious recipes! Teenie has conducted 250 cooking classes, and her nourishing food keeps Mark in tip-top condition. Can you afford to miss out?

Contact ABC Sales on 01476 539900 to purchase your copy at £17.95 plus p&p.

ABC BOOK SALES

June
11-17 SEC Camp Meeting
18-24 NEC Camp Meeting

ABC Shops
Waterfall, SEC
12.30-5pm, Monday–Thursday
10am–2pm, Friday

Birmingham Aston–Newtown
11am–4pm, Wednesday
4pm–8pm, Thursday
8am–4pm, Friday
11am–3pm, Saturday

Advent Centre
Mondays & Wednesdays, 6.30pm–8.30pm
Sundays, 11am–4pm

Transport for NEC camp meeting
Hubert Smiley has organised several coaches to take Seventh-day Adventist members across the Midlands to the NEC camp meeting. For details, phone Hubert Smiley on: 07868 288 310, 07831 958 114, 07738 598 292 or 01384 213 803.

The Torquay church has a two or three bedroom flat available for rent (one bedroom is partitioned). References are required. For further information, please contact Pastor Ian Lorek on 01626 830 727.