Sixty-first session of the NEC

Tears welled up in British Union Conference president, Pastor Ian Sweeney’s eyes, after the first report from the nominating committee was returned at the sixty-first North England Conference session, held at the Cheltenham Race Course from 13 to 14 September. The report, and subsequent vote, established that his older brother, Pastor Cyril Sweeney, would not be returning as president of the NEC for the next four years.

However, the tears were not of sadness, but of brotherly love. They continued as Ian spoke of Cyril’s work for the NEC during his short term as president. He was replaced by Pastor Lorance Johnson. Pastor John Ferguson was appointed as executive secretary and Rejoice Kampengele was returned as treasurer.

Pastor Johnson was on holiday in Jamaica when he received the nominating committee’s decision, and his text response was partially read to the delegation by Ian Sweeney:

‘Indeed, all of yesterday afternoon and until the early hours I have been restless and praying . . . it is truly only God’s will June and I seek; we will move forward . . . let the will of God be done.’

Beginning his ministerial career in the NEC, Pastor Johnson interned at Camp Hill Church, was chaplain at the Harper Bell School and continued on to pastor churches such as Handsworth and Nottingham. In 2006, he left to become part of the Adventist Frontier Missions programme, returning to the UK in 2009 where he currently serves in the Aberdeen district of churches with his wife, June, and three children, Darren, Daniel and Rebecca.

John Ferguson has been pastor of the Grantham church and Rejoice Kampengele has served one full term in the treasurer’s office since 2008. Rejoice admitted, ‘Although it’s a spiritually fulfilling experience working at the Conference, it’s also a challenge, and I relish a challenge; so I’m looking forward to the next four years of challenges and building on what we have started.’

>6
Enhancing Health
by Shannon Platt-McDonald, AGP, RH, R&N NSc
HealthMarkets Altona, DV

Protein – how much is too much?

In this issue we recommend our focus on current UK health news by looking at some emerging research on protein supplements. A BBC Health News online report (Newsbeat), 3 September, 2012, carried the heading: ‘Simmering’ saints carried the heading: ‘Simmering’ saints...
devotional
Adventism and the Kingdom

Devotional for the NEC session, Chelmsford, 13 September, 2012

by Bertil Wiklander

I am a Seventh-day Adventist because God has revealed to this Church the Gospel of the ‘entire life’ possible in God. This is the eternal Gospel, which is:

- Rooted in the concept of Creation and celebrated on the seventh day of the week
- Based on the Bible as a whole,
- Embracing history as a whole,
- Taking the earth as a whole
- With consequences for man as a whole.

We stretch ourselves towards the fullness of this entire life which is possible in God. Not a reduced life, but a full life in Him! Christ has made known to us that God’s Kingdom and this full life are built on:

- Giving instead of taking
- Humility instead of pride and arrogance,
- Valuing others instead of valuing oneself, and
- Commitment instead of egotism.

The devil’s ‘kingdom’ has already failed universally – cosmically. It was based on the opposite of the values of God’s Kingdom, namely:

- Taking from others,
- Arrogance, and
- Egotism.

But in Christ, God has defeated the devil and thrown him out of Heaven!

The devil’s kingdom

On the other hand, the devil has built his kingdom on this earth. In 1 John 5:19 (NASB) we read: ‘We know that … the whole world lies in the power of the evil one.’ And who can doubt that? By news and fiction, modern media reflect his power with an almost overwhelming force. It is shaping and destroying our children and youth.

Despite the fact of the devil’s defeat, God’s mission is not yet complete. Jesus has left with His disciples the Great Commission of Matthew 28:18-20.

All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.’ (NIV-UK)

Let’s look at the content and logical progression of this mandate for a moment.

1. God has given all authority in the world to Jesus Christ. On what grounds could He do this?
2. ‘Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus. Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death—even death on a cross!’
3. Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name. [v] that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.’

Devotional Adventism and the Kingdom

We know that the devil has rejected the Adventist message through his lies and his personal misdeeds. We are called to proclaim the good news of the Kingdom.

Matthew 28:18-20: ‘Do you love Me?’

This is the key question upon which the meaning of life rests. The answer is found in the greatest commandment, according to Jesus Christ (Matthew 22:37, NIV: emphasis supplied):

‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’

And a little further on:

‘Love your neighbour as yourself.’

It is when we do so together that we are His people, citizens of His Kingdom, and participants in His mission. And that is why we exist in the world today!

ADRA seeks Trustees

ADRA-UK wishes to recruit two new Trustees who would be willing to help the charity to steer them into the future. They should have:

- Commitment to the organisations and its values
- Experience in any of the legal duties, responsibilities and liabilities of a trusteeship
- Commitment to good international development work
- Good, independent judgement and willingness to speak their mind
- In the UK, the business or professional time necessary and
- UK residence.

The new Trustees will bring additional expertise to our board, preferably in one or more of the following areas: accountability of civil society organisations; food security & nutrition; natural resource management; NGOs at international level; international financial institutions, international and/or charity law and the media.

Based in Watford, we are a registered charity in the UK. Trustees are unpaid. If interested, please email info@adra.org.uk and download the application pack in the Our Work/Get involved section, or email info@adra.org.uk requesting an application pack.

Closing date: 3 December 2012.

the Berean column

with Andrew Puckering

The other song of Moses

The Children of Israel were camped right by the River Jordan, in the wilderness (Deuteronomy 11:1). They had been wandering there for forty years, following their fathers’ refusal to enter the Promised Land, and nearly all of them had been wandering since they were teenagers, if not all their lives (Numbers 14:4, 29-35). They had defeated Sihon, king of Heshbon, and Og, king of Bashan (who was a giant with a very large bed – Deuteronomy 2:25-37; 31:1-11), and they had taken possession of all the land of Gilead and Bashan for the Gaddites, the Reubenites, and the half of the Manasseh (so long as they helped the rest of their families to get settled as well – Deuteronomy 3:12-20). They had tried and failed to conquer Canaan; rebelled against Aaron’s priesthood; been refused safe passage by the Edomites (in theory their brothers); been bitten by serpents (and healed); and committed idolatry in the plains of Moab – and suffered for it (Numbers 14:39-45; 16:20-21; 21:4-9, 25). In short, they had been through a lot. Now, finally, they were about to cross over into the Promised Land (Joshua 1) – for real this time!

Moses would not go with them – he was 120 years old, and the LORD had forbidden him anyway (Deuteronomy 31:1, 2). The Great Leader would lead them though, and Joshua as well (Deuteronomy 31:3): a man, who, if the many exhortations given to him are any indication, may have been in need of some encouragement himself (Deuteronomy 31:6-8, Joshua 1:5-7, 9, 18). Now Moses was about to give them one last message, in the form of a song (Deuteronomy 31:38) – something to teach their children (Deuteronomy 31:19), something by which they were to remember him – his ‘famous last words’. Would they be gentle words of encouragement? Would they be like Moses’ song forty years earlier, celebrating their deliverance from Egypt and the past and confidently expecting the same in the future (Exodus 15:1-18)?

Not exactly. While Moses does recite the LORD’s blessings to Israel (Deuteronomy 32:7-14), he also goes to great lengths to describe their ungratefulness and unfaithfulness to Him. ‘They have corrupted themselves; They are not His children, Because of their blemish: A perverse and crooked generation.’ (Verse 5, NKJV.) ‘But Jeshurun grew fat and kicked; You grew fat, you grew thick, You are stout; Then he forsook God who made him, And scornfully esteemed the Rock of his salvation.’ (Verse 15, NKJV.) Reading through the whole song, it’s clear that the Israelites’ blessings were no more than lip服务, and that they were prone to abusing God’s gifts in the most horrific way – and that God would punish them for it. Limited in His anger only by what their neighbours might think of His mercy!

Moses, however, does not end his song there – and thank God that he doesn’t! The last verse, 43, is especially significant: ‘Rejoice, O Gentiles, with His people. . . Praise and praise His people. . .’

Now amazing is that right at the end of a song about how badly God has been treated, but also how badly they’ve scorned his salvation, and how much they deserved destruction – right at the conclusion of all this, we see a promise to all nations, that God would provide atonement for their sins: a promise that has since been fulfilled in Jesus Christ.

- Can anyone say he’s pure from sin? (Proverbs 20)
- What similarities can you find between Moses’ song and Deuteronomy 8?
- What parallels exist between Moses’ song and Ezekiel 16?
- Who sings the song of Moses in Heaven? (Revelation 15)
- Which of Moses’ songs is being sung here?
NEC session

(Continued from page 1)

These decisions came at quite a late stage in the process, almost halfway through the second day of proceedings – but, by the close of business at 6.27pm that day, not one name had been referred back to the nominating committee and the voted list of directors was:

- Children’s Ministries – Pastor Patricia Douglas
- Church-planting & Church Growth – Pastor Michael Simpson (re-elected)
- Communication – Pastor Peter Jaynes
- Community Services – Mrs Grace Walsh (re-elected)
- Family Ministries – Pastor Paul Liburd
- Health Ministries – Mrs Grace Walsh (re-elected)
- Personal Ministries – Pastor Michael Simpson (re-elected)
- Ministerial Association – Pastor Richard Jackson (re-elected)
- Sabbath School – Miss Beulah Plunkett (re-elected)
- Stewardship – Pastor Curtis Murphy
- Women’s Ministries – Mrs Geraldine Farmer (re-elected)
- Youth – Pastor Adam Ramdin (previously director of PEACE)

Hines, from Bulwell, Nottingham, stated: ‘When I want to know about a company, I look at their website. The way a website is run shows me how good things are. Are there any reasons why we can’t make ours up-to-date?’

Director Jeff Nicholson replied that there was no reason for it not to be kept current, as there are ways for churches to update it and submit their events. He also added that the NEC departments do try desperately hard to get their events out there.

Some departments, such as Geraldine Farmer’s Women’s Ministries, sailed through their reports; and, when no one came forward at the end, Pastor Cyril Sweaney quipped, ‘Geraldine’s done an excellent job, there are no questions!’

Family Ministries director, Geraldine Farmer, spoke on the marriage enrichment programme her department has co-ordinated: ‘These were well attended and indicate the need we have to give our couples a place to go where they can pay attention to their special relationships.’ Then Leonard Haye, on the topic of divorce and remarriage, asked, ‘What plans do we have in place to address this “cancer” which is spreading throughout our Church?’ The answer was twofold, as Geraldine asserted that this was one of the areas that the new administration would have to take seriously; and her BUC counterpart, Heather Howarth, commented that the BUC has taken this issue on board nationally, and that there truly is a need to understand what marriage commitment is about.

During his report the treasurer, Rejoice Kampengele, told the delegates that £19.2 million in tithe had been received in the previous four-year term – £5,161,661 in 2011 alone. Icilda Mardner wanted this question answered: ‘I want to know, are we in the black or in the red?’ As well as a few laughs, this brought a serious answer from the treasurer as he described how the Conference, while technically ‘in the black’, is trying to rebuild its general reserves.

Michael Simpson, in Personal Ministries, Adam Ramdin, director of PEACE (Practical Evangelism and Adventist Christian Education), and Alan Hush each spoke of how their outreach has made an unprecedented impact. Pastor Simpson spoke on how we can bring training to the membership, as opposed to getting members to come to retreats. He stated that 700 people could be trained over one weekend session, as opposed to the seventy or eighty people that would go up to an NEC-wide retreat. Pastor Ramdin also spoke of training the laity, commenting on the PEACE goal of ‘reaching the reached and the unreached’, Pastor Hush gave practical suggestions on involving those who are reticent to witness.

Session gleanings

The following interesting facts were gleaned from the NEC session report and various presentations during the session.

During the term:

- Five new churches were organised (Manchester Southern Asia, Sheffield Manor Newstart, Nottingham Upper Room, Isle of Man and Leeds Beeston), giving the NEC 86 organised churches by the end of the term.
- The number of church-plants has grown from 10 to 21.
- The membership grew from 7,874 to 8,270.
- There were 1,127 baptisms, of which 653 candidates were not UK-born.
- There were only 73 UK-born whites baptised in the entire NEC – approximately 18 per annum.
- The largest congregation remained Birmingham Camp Hill, with at least 654 members.
- Tithe increased by 21.5% over the previous quadrennium, with the per-capita yearly tithe returns for 2017 (£35) and 2011 (£35) just £1 apart.
- At least 52% of the NEC investment in ministries was spent on programmes to support young people.
- The pastoral workforce fluctuated, but at the end it stood at 35 ordained/commissioned pastors, 13 licensed ministers and 1 intern. The Conference also employs 3 Bible instructors.
Harper Bell School
Voluntary Aided status

At the last quadrennial session in 2008 it was voted to continue pursuing the Voluntary Aided (VA) status for the school, which was achieved in September 2011. The local authority is now responsible for the operating costs of the school, while the upkeep of the property remains the responsibility of the North England Conference. Classroom expansion was an immediate requirement and the NEC financed the necessary construction work at a cost of £400,000. The school has also secured a £171,000 grant towards window and toilet replacement, of which 10% has been met by the North England Conference.

Staffing
Harper Bell School employs 24 members of staff. The school has appointed a full-time chaplain (NEC-funded) who will assist in the maintaining of the Seventh-day Adventist Christian ethos.

Admissions
The school’s enrolment increased from 109 to 202 in the academic year 2011/2012. The admission quota proposed is to have 80% Adventist pupils and 20% non-Adventist pupils. Not all school year groups are full and the admission quota proposed is to have 80% of children achieving level 4 or more in Literacy (50% achieved level 5); and 85% of children achieving level 4 or more in Numeracy (50% achieved level 5). (Level 4 represents achievement at the nationally expected standard for most 11-year-olds; level 5 is usually achieved at Year 9 of secondary school.)

The school has continued to enjoy between 35%-50% of its pupils securing places in the local grammar schools.

Evangelism
Over the last four years around 20 pupils from Harper Bell School have been baptised, with many still continuing to have regular Bible studies. The teaching of the Adventist fundamental beliefs is part of our Religious Education programme.

Dudley House School
Dudley House School has been providing an Adventist education in Grantham for over forty years. It has been a challenge, however, to sustain enrolment numbers over the past four years as Grantham has been particularly hard-hit by the recession. Fortunately, due to the school’s marketing committee, numbers have not fallen in the last three school years.

The children who attend Dudley House continue to achieve well above the national target at Key Stage 2 SATs and move on to the good schools in the local area. Children have achieved 100% level 4 and above at Key Stage 2 for the past five years, apart from 2011 when a child with severe special needs achieved a level 3 in Maths, but, through exceptional teaching and support from the school, gained level 4 in English.

The school’s Ofsted report of 2010 included the following comment: ‘The school turns out well-adjusted, respectful and tolerant individuals who are keen to give of their best. Pupils have excellent attitudes to learning...the care pupils receive is outstanding. Parents hold the school in high regard.’

No recession at Press Open Day
Pastor Victor Hulbert, BUC News

While figures released recently show disappointing sales growth in UK retailing during the Olympic summer, there was little evidence of a slowdown at the Stanborough Press Open Day on Sunday, 2 September.

Coaches, cars and minibuses pulled into the car park from as far afield as Manchester, London and Plymouth, and by midday, when Dr Leslie Pollard stood up to speak in the marquee, it was standing room only. The president of Oakwood University, Alabam a, Dr Pollard is a down-to-earth speaker who immediately endeared himself to his audience with a reference to Usain Bolt and other Olympic winners. With a wry smile he admitted he was ‘pulling for Andy Murray’ to win gold in the tennis. ‘How much public humiliation do you want to have?’ he asked.

He was making a serious point, noting that the athletes need 10,000 hours of practice for public perfection. Linking his thoughts into the Isthmus Games in Corinth that Paul witnessed and referred to in his writings, he noted that Greek runners practised by running with weights. ‘The call to be a dedicated Christian takes rigour and dedication,’ he emphasised, noting the words in Hebrews 12 to ‘throw off everything that hinders’ (NEC). Encouraging his audience to focus, he repeated that even ‘a good thing can become a bad thing if it keeps you from the best thing.’

While excellent, Dr Pollard was just a warm-up for his wife, Dr Prudence Pollard, who came to share tips on child development and leadership from the book, she says, she ‘did not want to write’. ‘Raise a Leader (God’s Way).’

‘Ask ten people how to train a child in the way he should go (Proverbs 22:6) and you will get ten answers — all of them wrong,’ she said. ‘Each child is unique, and we must remember the individuality of the child,’ she explained, as she went on to demonstrate the importance of building trust in the first 18 months and developing the positive purposefulness of pre-school children. ‘Tell them their purpose at age 3 to 5 and they will live out that purpose,’ she emphasised.

The appreciative audience stayed in their seats and packed the back of the tent not just for these two main presentations, but also for the music of Tessera, the Adventist music group who have regularly raised the profile of the Church on programmes such as the BBC’s Songs of Praise, and for a humorous and animated half-hour chat with the two Drs Pollard, led by Hope TV programme host, Victor Hulbert. ‘It was fascinating to dig into the past and see how, despite their differing backgrounds as children, their families’ insistence on good education really set these two up for life,’ Victor reflected. That love of learning continues as they imbue both students and staff at Oakwood University with the same aspiration.

By late afternoon the sales hall had quietened down, and the car park started to empty; but the books bought, friendships made and lessons learnt — these will last for eternity.

NEC schools
Based on the report of Mrs Anne Pilmoor,
BUC Education director

80% of children achieving level 4 or more in math meet and surpass the government target of: Literacy (50% achieved level 5); and 85% of children achieving level 4 or more in Numeracy (50% achieved level 5).
What a beautiful sight!

There’s definitely an autumnal nip in the air, which simply means winter is just around the corner. But, I for one, have enjoyed getting out with my camera! Of course, the changing seasons simply mean there’s more to photograph.

So, put your scarf and your wellies on and 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 God’s creation, and, if you can, add a bit of humour into the mix!

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

“Be to all the beasts of the earth and all the birds in the sky and all the creatures that move along the ground – everything that has the breath of life in it – give every green plant for food.” And it was so.

Genesis 1:30 (NIV)

2. Woodland stream. Luis Bisaz, Canon EOS 1000D.

Please visit: www.adventistpictures.org.uk/megapixels for more pictures.
Edmonton spa day

On Sunday 12 August 2012, ninety ladies attended the free spa day lovingly put on by the young people of Edmonton Church at 8 Houndsfield Road, and instrumental music filled the rooms being used for treatments. Facials, aromatherapy, foot spas, manicures and massages were offered, all free of charge and given by qualified experts!

Ladies were greeted with exotic fruits, and given a talk on the healing properties of water by the resident and qualified herbalist, Sister M. Kirwan. Scrumptious fruit and vegetable vegan smoothies were freshly made, and enjoyed by all who attended.

Many ladies and young girls attended from the surrounding community; more than many other outreach ventures put on by the Edmonton church! All reviews were positive; many wished for this event to be put on again, but on a larger scale. The friendliness and professionalism of staff were such that some ladies even thought it was put on by the council! The Lord truly blessed this venture, and we can have the courage to develop new, unique ways of reaching out to those in our local community.

CERISE JOHNSTON

North London Luganda Seventh-day Adventist Community Fellowship (worshipping at Ferry Lane Primary School, Jarrow Road, Tottenham, N17 9PP) started with a handful of people back in 2010, with a vision of reaching out to all the lost in North London for Christ. God says His ‘word’ will never come back ‘void’ (Isaiah 55:11, KJV).

The group started with a powerful two-month weekend campaign in 2010 called ‘Those With Ears Will Listen’, led by Pastor Blessious Kalemee and resulting in the baptism of seven: Prossy Kaganda, Fred Setumba, Stella Nsali, Joyce Sekitoleko, Rhona Nanswogo, Esther Mushanga, and John Huss.

In 2011, Pastor Kalemee was led by God to conduct seven weeks of prayer, under the theme, ‘Christ With His Church’, and Eva Nabukwalya, Francis Kironde, Shifaka Nankukya, and John Nandu were won to Christ.

In 2012 Pastor Kalemee was moved by the Holy Ghost to begin ‘Seven Secrets of a Successful Life’ in a series which lasted for two months, and more people gave their lives to Christ: Charles Mungi, Sarah Kinyi, Lance Saunders, Gutu Nama, Ivan Wanza, Janet Muka, Fred Kalulu, Sarah Kikwabika, Oscar Kita, Jennifer Mubalwa, Fred Kivangwa, and Kigundu. To God be the glory, and thanks to Elders Solomon Nkubbi, Rosie Nsangwa, and Semakula for the follow-up work.

We thank Pastors Michael Namaji, Sam Ngini, and Harrison Mburani, who carried out these baptisms for Christ. God is still asking, ‘Whom shall I send?’

RICHMOND LUMUGA
On Your Marks

‘On Your Marks’ was the theme for Sutton-in-Ashfield’s 5-10-year-old children from the community during the Olympics – and their theme song, ‘On Your Marks’, focused on Jesus as the Leader in running for God. Each morning the children also enjoyed a craft activity.

At the end of the week, the parents were invited to Sabbath School to see their children sing their theme song, read from the Bible and perform a sketch. The children were all given medals for their achievements, and parents were invited to view their craft work on display.

Special thanks go to Sue Ansoncime, who organised the week, and Vera Skocina, games leader.

Erdington Children’s Focus Day

Erdington Children’s Ministries department, headed by Marlene Stewart, organised a special children’s focus day on 4 August. The children led out during Sabbath School and Divine Worship, without adult interference.

Beulah Plunkett, NEC Sabbath School and Children’s Ministries director, was the guest speaker, with the theme: ‘Children, obey your parents, and parents, obey your God.’

During the afternoon session, 4-year-old Gift Pindeni narrated the story of the people of Israel from the time they were in Egypt to the time they entered the Promised Land.

In her workshop, Sister Plunkett concentrated on the need for churches to set up children’s evangelism, children’s church, children’s choirs, children’s expos and so on.

Marlene Stewart thanks all the members and children, and especially Ashton-Newtown for their song service.

Toddler Olympics Dundee

Dundee Toddler Group recently held its own mini-Olympics specially tailored for toddlers! The kids had great fun, crawling, backward-running, hopping, and completing an obstacle course. They made their own medals in the craft period and delighted the spectators with their exuberance.

This group meets every Tuesday morning in the Dundee Seventh-day Adventist church hall and is proving popular with local residents.

Up to twenty children come with their mums and grannies. It is also a good chance for members to talk to neighbours who may be feeling lonely.

JOHN OSIEBEMPO

Inspire Share Witness

Two TV channels to share the best of British and International Adventist programmes with your friends:

Revelation TV (Sky 581 or Freesat 652): A Christian TV channel sharing Adventist programming packed a week: Thursday 8.30pm, repeated Sunday 1am.

Hope Channel Europe (Freeview 84: 1164MHz, www.hopetv.org.uk): Thirteen hours of English programming daily:

English
midnight – 2am

Hungarian/Ukrainian
2am – 3am

English
3am – 2pm

Hungarian/Ukrainian
2pm – 7pm

English
7pm – midnight

Highlights from the UK include:

‘In Conversation’ – sharing inspiring life journeys: Monday, 12.30am, Wednesday, midnight, Friday, 9am & midnight, Sabbath, 9pm and 7.30pm.

‘ViewPoint’ – discussing issues of life and faith: Monday, 9.30pm, Wednesday, 9pm.

Fathlife – Tracking the basic issues of faith and Christianity: Thursday, 12.30am, Friday, 8.30pm.

Also visit the Hope TV UK website for on-demand programming and exclusive BUC news reports and headlines: www.hopetv.org.uk

Forest Drawings Compositions: My favourite tree

The National Forest Wood Fair

On Sunday 19 August, more than forty guests at Sandbarrow Park celebrated the golden wedding anniversary of Pastor Michael and Joan Taylor, with festivities chaired by Paul Bellamy, a close family friend, and excellent food provided by Cecilia Davison, who has known Michael and Joan since their time at Newbold in the 1960s.

During almost twenty years of pastoral ministry, and a similar number of years working in the Treasury department and Discover Bible School at the BUC, Michael and Joan have touched many lives with their harmony and commitment to their family and their church.

Kieran and Rebecca Taylor presented ‘gold’ medals to their grandparents to honour their fifty years of marriage.

ADRIAN TAYLOR

Golden Wedding Anniversary

Sunday 12 August was the Family Life day for Aylesbury Church, and Oxford members played Aylesbury for the keenly contested David Spearing memorial challenge cricket trophy. The first match was organised in 2004 by Pastor David Spearing and Elders Nolan Victory and Oswald Thomas from Oxford and Aylesbury. From 2007, in memory of the passing of Pastor David Spearing, the challenge trophy was introduced. The Family Life department from each church takes turns to host the contest. This year it was the turn of Aylesbury, and Pastor Ian Sleeman officiated as the umpire. Aylesbury emerged triumphant, although Oxford redeemed themselves in the football.

KEVIN BROWN

David Spearing Memorial Cricket Match

Sunday 19 August was the Family Life day for Aylesbury Church, and Oxford members played Aylesbury for the keenly contested David Spearing memorial challenge cricket trophy. The first match was organised in 2004 by Pastor David Spearing and Elders Nolan Victory and Oswald Thomas from Oxford and Aylesbury. From 2007, in memory of the passing of Pastor David Spearing, the challenge trophy was introduced. The Family Life department from each church takes turns to host the contest. This year it was the turn of Aylesbury, and Pastor Ian Sleeman officiated as the umpire. Aylesbury emerged triumphant, although Oxford redeemed themselves in the football.

KEVIN BROWN

Tree of Life is a winner

Seven-year-old Benjamin Barrett-Peacock (pictured left) was delighted to return from holiday to find a letter, confirming that he had won the National Forest Draw-a-Tree Competition. Benjamin has always been fascinated by the descriptions of Heaven in the Bible and, when asked what favourite tree he would like to draw, answered immediately, ‘The Tree of Life’.

Benjamin’s picture was first viewed by the Lord Mayor of Leicester over the East Midlands. The Mayor was very interested in the unusual subject of the picture.

Benjamin attended the National Forest Wood Fair on 27 August and saw his winning picture on display. It will not be taken to the Derbyshire Arts Festival. Benjamin hopes that his picture will help the 15,000 people who attend these two events to read Revelation 22 and find out what the Tree of Life is really all about!

Evangelism can certainly take many forms!

JOHN OSIEBEMPO

UK Zambian Adventist Fellowship

You are invited to a DAY OF FELLOWSHIP

Date: 20th October 2012
Time: 10.30 to 15.30

Venue: The Fellowship Centre
Shobnall Street, Burton-on-Trent

Theme: There they may be One

Speaker: Pastor Nolan Hibbert
Editor of Zambian Adventist News

K useRef: 1053, 137, 127-540
Email: ukzaf Communcations@ymail.com

Address: This Sunday's meeting will be held at the Fellowship Centre.
Ladywell Fields Summer Festival

More than a thousand copies of Steps to Christ and Ministry of Healing were freely given to non-Christians who attended the Ladywell Fields Summer Festival on Sunday 19 August. This annual event, hosted by the Lewisham church, brought together families and friends from the local community for Gospel music, poetry and mime, including a performance from 7-year-old Tiana Gentle.

Six-year-old Katie said: ‘I never heard about Jesus before today; the words that Pastor Paul Goltz said today were very meaningful. I want to go to church with my mum and dad to learn about Jesus.’

Nadine Leach, 65, from Ladywell, said: ‘There is such a lovely atmosphere here; it’s so uplifting to see people of all different races and backgrounds coming together.’

The festival included a performance from the 7-year-old Tiana Gentle. The Pathfinder Drum Corps, the food stalls and fairground rides and the healing ministerial team were all well received by the audience.

On Sunday afternoon 2 September, Dr Bertil Wiklander (chairman, Newbold College board of governors) and Dr Philip Brown (principal, Newbold College) re-opened Keough House (men’s hall of residence) on the Newbold College campus, ready for the beginning of the new 2012-13 academic year. A prayer of dedication was offered by Pastor Paul Goltz (college chaplain).

The renovation over the past six months has included the conversion of bedrooms into single and double units with ensuite facilities, and the removal of existing showers and laundry rooms to make way for kitchen and dining areas. All rooms have been completely redecorated, incorporating multiple double sockets and data points, new light fittings, new basins and taps, and new flooring and furniture throughout.

Keough House was named after George D. Keough, a pioneer missionary to the Middle East, and for many years a theology teacher on campus. Dr Brown expressed the hope that its residents would follow in its alumnus’s footsteps, and thanked everyone present, and those who contributed time and funds to the refurbishment. Dr Wiklander thanked God for His leading.

New and returning students are said to be very happy with their accommodation. A final phase of the refurbishment, including improvements to the reception, visitor bathroom, disabled room access and the dean’s office, is planned for completion in January 2013.

If you would like to donate towards the completion of this final phase, this can still be done online (www.newbold.ac.uk). You can give legal advice. If you have a heart for medical mission work or would like to support this work financially, please contact Richard on 07955 844 371 or visit our website: yahwayhealth.org.

Next leads of the week

Eco Health and A Sound Mind

Sharon Pat-McDonald

The BUC health director gives you two new healthy, packed-good lunches on health, helping you to live in touch with both your mind and the Lord’s creations.

Contact ABC Sales on 01476 519800 or email sales@abcnew largelyears.org.uk at ST 99 each plus p&p.

ABC BOOK SALES

September

October

12 Welling 10am -2pm
10am -2pm

ABC Shops

Newbold, SIC

12.30-5pm, Monday-Thursday
10am-3pm, Friday
10am-1pm, Saturday

Birmingham, Aston-Newtown

4pm-8pm, Monday
10am-4pm, Tuesday
1pm-5pm, Thursday
1am-3pm, Saturday

Advant Centre

Monday-Saturday, 10am-6pm
11am-10pm, Sunday

October

30 Welling 10am -2pm

13 Peckham 10am -2pm

14 Willesden 10am -2pm

Sundays – 11am -3 pm

Saturdays – November, December

We thank God, and pray that, one day soon, Katie and the other supporters needed Adventist doctors, nurses, pastors, cooks, medical missionaries interested in being part of a new Wellness Centre project: Adventist doctors, nurses, pastoral care, maintenance personnel, drivers, seminar instructors, assistants, and anyone who can give legal advice. If you have a heart for medical missionary work or would like to support this work financially, please contact Richard on 07955 844 371 or visit our website: yahwayhealth.org.