Burkina Faso – the ‘land of honest men’ – is the world’s third-poorest country. Located in West Africa, this landlocked nation is subject to recurring drought. Which is bad news for the many Burkinabes who eke out an existence from farming cotton – a product that is hostage to fluctuating world prices.

In situations like this, children are always the losers. They live ‘never-enough’ lives, going short on many of the things we regard as the bare basics of childhood – toothpaste, soap, shampoo, crayons, pencils, paper and even the simplest of manufactured toys.

Now you know

Now you know why ADRA-UK chose the children of this country to receive the 12,000 shoeboxes collected during the 2012 Appeal.

Crammed into two massive shipping containers, these precious boxes were collected from the Stanborough Park grounds on 21 November, along with our first batch of WakaWaka solar lights and 250 relief boxes from Aquabox. They are now on their way to Africa and should reach Burkina Faso by Boxing Day.

The best Appeal yet

In their enthusiasm, many churches and individuals have exceeded last year’s tally. ADRA-UK CEO, Bert Smat, put it this way: ‘So many people, and especially schoolchildren, have made this happen… 4,000 boxes more than 2011… People are so generous, even when feeling the pinch themselves!’

Typical of this enthusiasm was the comment of a young child from Manchester: ‘We saw your video and we wanted to do shoeboxes to make more little kids happy!’

A beaming Godwin Benjamin, ADRA’s Appeal co-ordinator, was there to seal those containers before they left: ‘The response from our members and friends has been phenomenal… but I must also mention the volunteers who packed boxes at the collection points, and those who helped unload the trucks and pack these containers. All your efforts were greatly appreciated.’

The last word

In any report, someone always has the last word – this time we give it to ‘Mac’, one of the burly truckers, who uplifted the containers. ‘Most days I’m loading my truck to make rich people richer. Today, I’m transporting happiness!’

Wow, what an awesome thought!

BASED ON A BBC NEWS REPORT AND PHOTOGRAPHS
While visiting Jamaica on holiday recently, I made an interesting discovery about the reported health impact of some commonly used beverages in the West Indies. Professor Paul Gyles, PhD (an Adventist), researched two tropical food drinks, coconut water (Cocos nucifera) and mauby (Momordica charantia), and found that the consumption of coconut water had a positive effect on blood pressure and that mauby had a negative effect on blood pressure. The research was published in the West Indian Medical Journal 2005 Jan; 54(1):3-8 and was based on the Department of Preventive Sciences, Faculty of Medical Sciences, The University of the West Indies, St Augustine, Trinidad and Tobago.

In another study, authors T. Alleyne, S. Roache, C. Thomas and A. Shirley, researched and found that the consumption of coconut water had a positive effect on blood pressure and that mauby had a negative effect on blood pressure. The research was published in the West Indian Medical Journal 2005 Jan; 54(1):3-8 and was based on the Department of Preventive Sciences, Faculty of Medical Sciences, The University of the West Indies, St Augustine, Trinidad and Tobago.

Professor Gyles revealed that current research with Loma Linda was looking at the possibility of arriving at a pharmaceutical dosage. He adds that rather than just using the drink for seasonal celebrations like Christmas, instead: ‘One or two glasses per week could be therapeutic as we believe it has a cumulative effect.’

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Act I: scene 1
I stood into the first empty desk, filled with my tie and waited for our new maths teacher to arrive. He was on time: wore a suit that fitted perfectly; and spoke with a German accent.

‘Good morning! So . . . you are the new Standard nines. You have your textbooks, yes?’

Then ‘Herr Teacher’ went for the jugular. ‘This class is too big! Some of you should take other subjects; if you didn’t get a 60% pass last year, you won’t pass A-level maths!’ Silence briefly ruled the room . . . then some rose despondently and left.

Others, like myself, pondered their options as ‘Herr Teacher’ droned on.

Act I: Scene 2
I had a passion to go to university. For that I needed two languages, mathematics, and at least one science among my six subjects.

So I was there to hear his comment the next day: ‘So, some of you have decided to stay, yes? Good luck!’

Act I: Scene 3
Twenty-four long months later, almost to the day, I passed on the top step of the Administration building. I had passed in every subject – including mathematics! It felt so good . . . but it was about to get even better. For coming up the stairs towards me was ‘Herr Teacher’. As immaculate as ever, and probably on his way to scare a few Standard nines out of his class!

He slowed as he reached the top step, just long enough to rumble a comment: ‘So, Herr Hibbert, you passed . . .’

And I heard my smiling answer: ‘Yes, Herr Teacher, I did.’

Epilogue
How different could my life have been? What if my English teacher had not wanted me back? We don’t know; do we?

What we do know, however, is that each of us has an influence on those around us – positive or negative, but seldom neutral. Am I a positive influence? Are you?

There is a bit of old Quaker wisdom that encapsulates this for me: ‘I expect to pass through this world but once. If, therefore, there be any kindness I can show, or any good thing I can do to any fellow human being, let me do it now. Let me not defer or neglect it, for I will not pass this way again.’

Jesus walked the stony road from cradle to cross knowing He would not pass that way again. This gave special purpose to His contact with people. Wherever He could lift a burden; cheer a heart; share an insight; or bring peace and grace to a tortured mind, He did so.

He quietly added value to the lives of blind men; wayward women; scorned Samaritans; hated tax collectors; fervent Pharisees; rough fishermen; tough soldiers; even a dying thief! . . . and those little children who just wanted to hold His hand.

Have I added any real value to someone in the last week? If not, will tomorrow be any different?

Editor’s special note: Readers, please don’t misunderstand: I am not a student who got this from a public school! This is stuff I learned from my former editor, Dr David Marshall – the man who helped create this book. The writing is therefore a bit differently phrased – but I have never doubted its quality. Thank you, David!
A few years after his fall from power, we met Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbatchev. He was, you will recall, who had presided over the collapse of the Communist Empire. Mikhail Sergeyevich was in company with his wife Raisa. The fragmentation of the Soviet Empire was already in progress, but we were not in any of those parts: nor, indeed, anywhere in the newly-formed Russian Federation. Both the Gorbatchevs and ourselves were far from our home countries pursuing our common interest in ancient history.

The location of our encounter was a museum in Thessaloniki, which showcases some of the most outstanding artefacts from the age of Alexander the Great. We had no opportunity to discuss with the Gorbatchevs our shared enthusiasm for things from ancient Greece. Indeed, the only interesting outcome for me from the encounter was a report in the press that the Gorbatchevs had opened a press conference Gorbatchev gave in the museum’s conference hall.

The questions, had they been answered as the journalists hoped, could have got the Gorbatchevs into a lot of hot water. But Mikhail Sergeyevich had been around long enough to know how to field them. However, he did open up on a question addressed to him on the virtual disappearance of the nuclear family. The family unit, he believed, of seventy years of totalitarian atheism was given rise to the need for institutions in the home countries pursuing our common interest in ancient history.

That was the plan, at most events. Most children managed to cut out a manger and a range – for always.

Misha, 6, who finished first, actually made two babies and placed them both in the manger. “Why two?” the translator asked him.

Misha crossed his arms, looked wise and began to tell his version of the Christmas narrative. When he reached the point where Mary placed Jesus in the manger, Misha added some words of his own: “When Mary placed Jesus in the manger, He looked up at me and said, ‘You have anywhere to stay?’” I told Him I have no mama and no papa, so I don’t have anywhere to stay. Then Jesus said, ‘Stay with Me.’ But I thought I couldn’t because I didn’t have a gift to give Him. Then I said, ‘If I keep You warm, would that be a good enough gift?’ Jesus said, ‘That would be too much. You can stay with Me for always.’

Misha’s eyes brimmed with tears, and they splashed down his cheeks. His head dropped, and his shoulders shook with sobs. The abandoned boy had found a Friend who would never abuse him, and would stay with him – for always.

Whether under Communism or gangster capitalism, we pay a high price for abandoning the narrative. And Misha’s take on it was spot on. We have to become part of the narrative.

David Marshall gives a timeless story a touching twist.
6. Undermining the Church. A clear indicator of whether teachers are false or not is their attitude towards the Church. They have to be very cautious here, of course, because they draw their audience from within the Church. Listen carefully though, and you will hear them subtly (and sometimes not so subtly) undermining the very organisation which they rely for new disciples. Some of the phrases they come out with are, ‘You won’t hear this truth being preached in your church’, ‘Why are Adventists so afraid of preaching on this text?’ ‘Adventists are sleeping their way into the future.’ What they’re really saying is, ‘Don’t trust the Church, trust me instead.’ You have to admit it’s attractive, but wait, what if you’ve been engaged in Church-bashing at one time or another? When a new speaker comes along, who has specialised in one tiny corner of the Bible and really seems to know his stuff, it can be a contrast from the pastor you have listened to for the last five years. But think about it. The pastor’s job is to teach a balanced view of the Scriptures to a highly diverse audience. You have bound to run into some stuff again and again, and yes, you might get bored with some of it. New teachers can seem exciting – but that doesn’t necessarily mean they are true. False teachers will also be careful to undermine the denominational institutions of the Church and they usually focus on what is not being taught. ‘You won’t hear this teaching at Newbold College,’ is a favourite saying. The big threat to the false teachers from our educational institutions, however, is not what is being taught, but the way that it is being taught. At our colleges and universities, we are not just taught facts; you are taught how to study, how to analyse, how to practice ‘rightly dividing the word of truth’ (2 Timothy 2:15). A clear understanding of how to interpret the Bible is what will bring the false teachers down.

7. Piety no indicator of accuracy. The mathematical trick in the box below contains an error. That error would still be there even if different symbols had been used. We could have written, ‘Add ‘algebra’ and ‘omega’ in place of ‘a’ and ‘z’’. We could have thrown in some biblical numbers – e.g. ‘7’ or ‘12’, ‘1,260, or 2,300 – but it would still have been wrong. Even a simple prayer had been said before the equations were presented, the errors would still be there. Similarly with the false teachers. Many of them intersperse their presentations with biblical-sounding words or numbers. Many of them say lengthy prayers, often on their knees, involving the power of the Holy Spirit to convict the audience of the ‘truth’ of what they are saying. They may also claim to have family worship twice a day and to practice both dress and health reform. Unfortunately, none of these qualities is a reliable indicator of the accuracy of what they are presenting. Even good people can be wrong.

8. Preference for verbal teaching. Most false teachers (there are a few notable exceptions) prefer to teach through the spoken word at conventioned meetings, rather than through written documents or books. The advantage, for them, is that they are able to prevent, undoubtedly, of getting new people to join. For many of them, the battle-cry of the Church should be, ‘When the character of Christ shall be very perfectly reproduced in his people, then He will come to claim them as His own.’ (G. E. White,儿童的Object Lessons, page 69). This is, of course, a worthy aim and was Ellen White’s way of restating Galatians 5:22, 23, which is talking about the fruits of the Spirit. But surely it shouldn’t negate the real driving force of the Church. And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come.’ (Matthew 24:14.4.)

10. By their fruits you will know them. One of the saddest evidences that a teacher is false is unfortunately only revealed after a long period of time, and that is the trial of confusion, disunity, and disharmony that false teachers leave in their wake. Follow the path of any particular false teacher over a number of years and you will find breakdowns in the family, and in both the church and in the school, and zero net growth. Yes, they will attract a following of some kind, but they will always be at the expense of the Church as a whole.

In conclusion One thing is for sure: we will always have false teachers infiltrating the Church, parasitic on the structure, using the hard work that has been done by others for their own ends. The question is, are we going to be taken in by them, or will we recognise them for what they are?
A

1 Stanborough our students not only achieve consistently good academic results, but they also leave with the character, conviction and steadfast values that prepare them for a life of service. This, we believe, is the true hallmark of Adventist education. True education is the preparation of the physical, mental, and moral powers for the performance of every duty; it is the training of body, mind, and soul for divine service.1

Stanborough’s focus on teaching moral values is evident to everyone who meets one of our students. A local journalist who visited our school wrote this after visiting us:

‘The sense of calm and respect is almost tangible as you walk along the school’s corridors. The respectful nature of the students is clearly shown when they rise from their seats to greet adults entering their classrooms.’

Compassion is one of our core values. Our students are encouraged to be actively involved in both local and international charities. We STOP International and ADRA. Upon returning from our annual humanitarian trip to India, a student commented: ‘Coming to Stanborough has quite possibly been the best thing to happen to me. And my visit to India has been the most inspirational time of my life.’

Through small class sizes and the individual attention we are able to give, we foster a family-like atmosphere that helps each student develop a balanced self-image and lasting friendships. Eva Papaoanamos, a current Year 9 student, shared: ‘Once, one of my friends in my form came to me and said, “I really want to thank you, the rest of the form, our form tutor and the rest of the school for making me feel so welcome here. I have been through nine different schools, in different countries, and in none of them have I made such lovely friends and felt so welcome. This is the first school in which I can say I feel at home.”’

Real-life experiences and a broad curriculum are all integral components of Adventist education. Sarah Shephey, a Year 7 student, commented: ‘I think the lessons are fun. I’m learning “tone” in Art, gardening in Horticulture, touch-typing in Keyboard Skills and many other things. As well as lessons, there are so many extra clubs to choose from. I am in six of them: Tennis, Badminton, LAMDA, Mime, Maths Club and French Movie Club.

The inspiring stories of our past students’ professional and personal growth reveal what Stanborough School truly offers. Joshua Roberts, for instance, studied at Stanborough from 2004 to 2011. He is currently studying for a Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery degree at Barts and the London School of Medicine and Dentistry. His message to current students is clear: ‘Do your best and God will take care of the rest! Everything is achievable so aim for the stars.’

Chris Longman, another former student, is currently working as a junior account executive for a leading technology firm after obtaining a Business Management degree from King’s College, London. About his time at the school he shares: ‘I made some great friends. I was also greatly inspired by Mr Rivers (Business Studies teacher), who encouraged me to pursue my interest in business.’

We are delighted that for the past five years our students have achieved well above the national average.1 But what makes Stanborough unique is that we are preparing our students to share in God’s plan by making a difference in our world. Last year, Wook Whan, Lukonde and Nhomba decided to confirm their faith through baptism. Again and again, we can see how this holistic success we call Adventist education makes Stanborough School so worthwhile.

Chief’s Object Lessons, p. 330, E. White, My Local News, My Garston, March 2011, Issue 48. From June 2007 to June 2011, 79.4% of Stanborough students achieved five or more GCSEs (or equivalents) at A*-C level, including English and Maths, compared with a national average of 51.6%. Source: Department of Education.
Stanborough Primary School

Stanborough Primary School in Watford is home to 131 children aged 3 to 11 years old (the largest enrolment for the last seven years). The school, says Pastor Ian Sweeney, chairman of the board of governors, ‘works in partnership with parents; it strengthens and reinforces Christian values throughout the school day.’

For over 90 years, it has provided children with a high standard of education, not only to prepare them to attend some of the best secondary schools in Hertfordshire and beyond, but also to prepare them for life in the wider world and the hereafter.

As well as the obvious evidence of the school allegiance to its Christian ethos, there is a colourful anti-bullying display in its reception area prepared by Year 4 pupils, which links with a special assembly they prepared for the anti-bullying week. From the foyer, you are ushered into a large open space, with a stage that hosts visiting speakers, school concerts, choir practices and a number of extra-curricular clubs, as well as whole-school assemblies. Displays of the children’s work proudly decorate the walls and speak of the broad curriculum and breadth of learning involved.

Surrounding ‘the great hall’ are hubs of learning for each year group. Nursery and reception classes engage in learning through independent play. Focused group activities are initiated by the class teacher to help them grasp key concepts. ‘No two days are the same,’ says Mrs Reeve, the Reception Class teacher. ‘I like the fact that, in teaching here, I can use all of my skills to significantly influence the children’s learning.’

From the ages of 5 to 7, Key Stage 1 children are engaged in more formal learning. The head teacher, Kathleen Hanson, believes that a creative curriculum enhances learning, and that principles from the early years can be applied throughout the school to accelerate learning. During Key Stage 1 the children also develop a deeper understanding of spiritual matters. Belicia, a Year 1 student, said, ‘I like school assemblies because I learn more about Jesus,’ while Leah, in Year 2, commented, ‘I like listening to Bible stories during the day.’

When children enter Key Stage 2, they develop their skills further. Preparation to visit the junior school picks up momentum and the 11+ club is offered and run by the school. Many pupils transition smoothly onto Stanborough Secondary, while others sit common entrance tests for other top schools. According to Ofsted (January 2013): ‘teaching standards in Stanborough School are “good” with “sometimes exceptional progress made in reading and mathematics because they are systematically taught and skills very carefully built up and checked on”.’ Much emphasis has also been given to raising standards in writing.

As well as formal academic subjects, clubs are held before, during and after school, and these include Thinking Skills, Football, Gymnastics, Arts and Craft, and Tennis. Some clubs, such as Cycling, are seasonal. Individual music lessons and group LAMDA training (speech and drama) are also offered. Eleven students took LAMDA exams in the summer, with five gaining merits and six earning distinctions. Their musical experiences have included participation in the Watford Festival (two distinctions), performing at the Royal Albert Hall, and participating in a piano master class and recital.

The school caters for the development of the whole child, and spiritual connections are embedded. Ofsted’s rating of the provision for pupils’ spiritual, moral, social and cultural development was ‘outstanding’, and the children agree.

Jazmin from Year 6 said: ‘The teachers are helpful and kind and there is a strong Christian ethos’ (her own words), while Kenan in Year 5 believes: ‘School life helps me to problem-solve.’ Hannah from Year 3 said, ‘I love when he moved up to Year 5: ‘I cannot thank you enough for what you have done for my son; he comes home so happy every night and he never has a bad word to say about anyone in the school. Thank you so much for finding the best in him.’

An added bonus for us is that his little brother started in our Reception class this September. This family is not Adventists, and the only connection they have with our Church is through their son’s experience in our school. They are a lovely, caring family, who are now spreading goodwill for us in the community.

This is the spirit that makes Newbold Primary School a very special place. I asked one of my Year 6 boys what he would remember most about being at our school, and he replied, ‘Just the kindness of everybody.’ Another girl who has just moved on to secondary school told me, ‘I miss some of my friends, but mostly I miss the way all the teachers cared about me.’

Our school motto, ‘Virtute et Labore,’ is not very easy for the children to understand, though the sentiment, ‘High standards and hard work’, is worthwhile. If we could update it for 2012 maybe we would choose, ‘It is more important to be kind than to be right’, as this truly represents the ethos we aim to achieve.

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Newbold School is a happy and heterogeneous community, because many of our pupils are the children of students at Newbold College, whose cultural heritage is varied and fascinating. We have children with Serbian/Indonesian, Brazilian/Norwegian, Egyptian/Romanian, Greek/African parent combinations, to name just a few. Many of our pupils have English as an additional language and speak another language, or even two, at home. Consequently our school enjoys and celebrates diversity.

We aim to help all children to reach their academic potential and set them on the road to becoming caring and considerate citizens. For this reason, we celebrate both academic improvement and good social skills at our rewards assembly on Friday mornings. Our children receive leaves for good work and apples for good behaviour, kindness or thoughtfulness. Each leaf or apple is marked with the child’s name and the reason for the award. It is then stuck on our Achievement Tree in the Hall.

Each year group is represented by a different colour, and the tree grows week by week until, by the end of the summer term, it is a mass colour celebrating the school’s achievements for the year. We have found this to be a very good tool for motivating positive attitudes within our school. At Newbold we welcome all children, irrespective of their backgrounds. Sometimes children come to us who have been unhappy or unsuccessful at their previous schools. They are often nervous, timid and under-achieving when they arrive. But they settle quickly and begin to make progress because our school is small, and we give them individual attention and support. One boy came to us in Year 4, half-way through the Autumn Term. His mother told us she was finding it increasingly difficult to get him to go to school as he was really unhappy. He felt that no one liked him and that he was being picked on by other children. He was also getting into trouble with the staff.

He was also very concerned that the move would be traumatic and that he would not settle into school with us either. We suggested that he come for two ‘taster’ days before half-term to see if he liked the school, and she agreed. He started just after the half-term holiday; settled in immediately, and has become one of our very best success stories. He has gained in confidence, has lots of friends and has made very good academic progress. He also has a very kind and caring attitude towards other less able students. In July his mother wrote this thank-you note: ‘I cannot thank you enough for what you have done for my son; he comes home so happy every night and he never has a bad word to say about anyone in the school. Thank you so much for finding the best in him.’
Newbold College of Higher Education offers full degrees in Theology and Business, as well as short courses such as the Gap Year and even shorter summer intensive courses. But there’s much more to Newbold than just its academics, so we’ve asked three of our students to tell you their Newbold stories.

Jadanna Huie from London – Department of Theological Studies (MA)

So how did I end up here? Youth Ministry caught me in Watford, detoured through Spain and dropped me off at Newbold’s registration desk. I cried when I realised its plan and dropped me off at Newbold’s registration desk. I cried when I realised its plan and dropped me off at Newbold’s registration desk. I cried when I realised its plan and dropped me off at Newbold’s registration desk. I cried when I realised its plan and dropped me off at Newbold’s registration desk. I cried when I realised its plan and dropped me off at Newbold’s registration desk. I cried when I realised its plan and dropped me off at Newbold’s registration desk. I cried when I realised its plan and dropped me off at Newbold’s registration desk. I cried when I realised its plan and dropped me off at Newbold’s registration desk. I cried when I realised its plan and dropped me off at Newbold’s registration desk. I cried when I realised its plan and dropped me off at Newbold’s registration desk.

The US Adventist universities were not an option because I desired to do ministry in this country. And I knew I wanted to do ministry in the Church, so to go to a secular university seemed to defeat the purpose.

I’ve been challenged and stretched, intellectually, emotionally, and spiritually. The lecturers are known for delivering quality par excellence, and their module content will have you reading (and crying) for days. (jest, I jest!) Let’s not forget to mention the social challenges. I like to consider myself culturally aware and able to cross such lines with ease, yet the melting pot that is Newbold College continues to astound me. The cafeteria and the Lingmore Lounge Student Centre, home to many student activities, is where we all marinate and boil together in our little pot – Brazilians, mixed with a Latvian/Kenyan couple and the many races from Holland, lightly seasoned with Brits (and a side order of Americans), and we haven’t even been served a Newbolidian starter, such is the diversity on this campus!

So here I am, with an undergraduate degree in Theology with a certificate in Youth Leadership under my belt, and I’m halfway through the first semester of my MA in Theology (yes!) and thinking, “What have I gotten myself into now?” Two three-hour seen exams, both with three questions to be answered, and a 4,000-word assignment on Qualitative Research in Pastoral Theology due in December? Chosen for a second semester to be a residence assistant (support to deans and students)? Sounds like I have a lot on my plate – only God knows. “Forward thinking” in a year and some I’ll be finished and I’ve got a ton of invaluable experiences, memories and good friends to remember. (Not forgetting qualifications.) There has been much growing and discovering of myself here. I wouldn’t change that for anything!

Mathias Yoseph from Tanzania – School of Business

Newbold College is the senior higher education provider of the Trans-European Division, and, guess what, I am honoured and blessed to be part of it. My name is Mathias Yoseph, a third-year student at Newbold College, taking a bachelor’s degree in Business Studies.

My experience at Newbold is one of a kind – something pretty hard to be found in public institutions around the UK because of the uniqueness of the college. The Newbold Students Association (NSA) meets every fortnight to discuss student life around college. I find this very supportive because it gives us students an opportunity to share the challenges we face, and get to the bottom of our concerns. We even get to solve some of the problems we come across as young people. The School of Business has its representative body known as the NBA (no link with basketball, and more exciting than that) – the Newbold Business Association.

The body offers business experience for students. It gives them a chance to taste real business life by making trips to top European business firms; organising dinners with top Adventist business professionals around the UK and planning other events that offer business students valuable experience. It helps us develop a mindset for business success in the future. . . . and it does get better. . . .

Lectures are really special at Newbold; students always interact personally with their lecturer, and at the end of class it feels like we’ve just had a group discussion, which is great! Newbold is also a place where the spiritual life of students is greatly enhanced, and not just outside the classroom – even during classes I have been able to discuss and understand the importance of applying Christian morality in business. I have really enjoyed my time at Newbold, and I know it’s a valuable investment for the future.

Anni-Elina Vänskä from Finland – Gap Year

During the last year of my high school I thought a lot about my future. I felt a bit stressed by everyone asking which university I would apply to. They also suggested different options which they thought would be smart for me. I felt confused in the middle of all that advice. I had no idea about my future. I just knew that I would like to take a year off after graduating to do something meaningful and different, such as volunteering.

I felt a need to go and help other people, to make a difference, to be a blessing to each other. I can’t wait to see what the time at Newbold will bring – I can’t wait to find out more about God’s plan for my life.

Newbold’s study program, called the Gap Year. Instantly I knew that it was exactly what I was supposed to do.

Coming to Newbold was a dream come true, a gift from God. Newbold is an amazing place to be, in part because of the beautiful environment and the wonderful atmosphere. It’s my first opportunity to study in a Seventh-day Adventist institution, and I appreciate it a lot. It’s a great opportunity to spend more time with God and to deepen my spiritual life. It’s also been a great chance to meet a lot of inspiring, wonderful people. I’m quite sure that Newbold is a place that changes the lives of many people, leaving an unforgettable memory in our hearts.

Every day with God is full of the most exciting surprises. It’s amazing to see how God uses different people, and how much they can be a blessing to each other. I can’t wait to see what the time at Newbold will bring – I can’t wait to find out more about God’s plan for my life.

Newbold College Summer Session Intensives

17 July – 26 July 2013

This coming summer, Newbold College is offering a comprehensive session of intensive modules. The modules cover a wide range of disciplines, from the Philosophy of Adventist Education (part of the Certificate in Adventist Educational Practice) to English Literature (Shakespeare and C. S. Lewis); from Business (Accounting and Management) to Media and Theology (with two additional Theology modules for postgraduate students). The full details of the programme will be available soon – check www.newbold.ac.uk for updates, or contact the programme director, Dr Sandra Rigby-Barrett, at sandra@newbold.ac.uk to register your interest.
Hyland House School

What a busy year! So much has happened this year! It has been absolutely great! It was the gist of the conversation between a group of parents I overheard as they socialised after our grand graduation service.

I had to agree. It has been a fantastic year! After all:
- Ours was one of the very few schools in our borough to be registered with Olympic School Status.
- We were invited to have lunch with Her Majesty the Queen.
- We held a Diamond Jubilee street party.
- We organised an Olympic sports day event.
- The school fete, opened by the mayor, was successful.
- The glamorous Year 6 prom, which included a four-course meal, was a great success;
- The Harvest Festival brimmed with produce;
- The graduation was a grand affair.

The staff at Hyland House School strongly believe that, in order to ‘educate the whole child’, we need to provide more than the academic curriculum; more than maths, English and science. That is why we cater for the spiritual needs of our children and include the wonderful and memorable experiences like the ones listed above.

Olympic School Status

Hyland House Seventh-day Adventist Independent School welcomed to London 2012’s ‘Get Set Network’

Pupils and teachers at Hyland House were officially welcomed into London 2012’s ‘Get Set network’, in recognition of their commitment to the Olympic and Paralympic values, which are very similar to the school’s values and ethos. Mr Tencho Zappryanov, our headteacher, said:

‘When London won the right to host the Olympic Games and Paralympic Games, we made a clear promise to use the power of the 2012 Games to inspire young people. I am proud to welcome Hyland House School into the Get Set Network for their exciting work around the Olympic values of friendship, excellence and respect, and the Paralympic values of inspiration, courage, determination and equality.’

A bountiful harvest

Each year, we teach our children about the importance and blessings gained in ‘giving and sharing’, which is best demonstrated in our annual harvest programme. Our children bring in food displayed in beautifully decorated boxes, and envelopes containing cash donations.

These donations are given to the Welfare department of the Stoke Newington Seventh-day Adventist church, which feeds the homeless every Wednesday.

Last year we received an invitation from the Welfare department for some of our children to come to the church to help and prepare the cooked food. This gave them a first-hand experience of the importance of giving and helping others.

The children returned to school and shared their experience in assembly. ‘It was brilliant, it really made me think. I’m really grateful for what I have,’ was a comment made by one of them.

This year, our children gave abundantly. They brought in countless food parcels and raised £300!

Graduation programme

So, back to the grand graduation programme where the initial conversation began.

The children graduated in grand style – each receiving a certificate of achievement: be it academic, spiritual, social or all three!

Presidential award

The presidential award is an award given by the president of the SEC, who also is the chair of our school governing board. This year it was a state-of-the-art iPad.

The staff agreed that the award should be given to a graduating Year 6 child who has consistently demonstrated, during his or her time at Hyland House School, our Christian ethos and motto, and our school values of love, joy, kindness, perseverance and self-control.

Riaz Morgan was the worthy candidate for the award. We indeed had a busy year – but, with our dedicated, enthusiastic and committed staff, it has been a fun-filled, fantastic educational journey.

To God be the glory!

Gail Maden, staff

Contact details:
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Fletewod School

‘Welcome home,’ were the words that I remember thinking when I walked into Fletewod School for the first time thirty years ago. Ed Hollister was the headteacher at that time, and he and his wife Lynne welcomed my family with open arms. I learnt a lot about humility, patience and faith from him, and what it really means to serve in a small mission school. A more godly man and respected mentor I have never come across. Four years later I was shocked to hear that he had decided to move back to America. We continue with further study before heading up another small school with Lynne as assistant teacher. I was even more shocked when I was asked to take over the headship of Fletewod.

Reluctantly I agreed to take over until a suitable replacement could be found – and I am still waiting twenty-six years later. I suppose that reluctance was my saving grace, as I have always considered myself as ‘holding the fort’ until reinforcements could be found. I saw myself as deputy with God as my headteacher. This is, and always will be, His school. What ultimately drives us to do our best, and is echoed in our school motto: ‘. . . dedicated to the discovery of excellence in each child’.

Fletewod School really does have a ‘family feel’ about it. As soon as you walk through the main doors, which display our new school plaque – ‘Fletewod’s Cool’ – you sense the welcoming atmosphere of home. Parents and Ofsted inspectors alike, all agree that there is something tangible about the experience. Whether it has something to do with the building itself, a large Edwardian detached house, or the number of children in the school, currently sixty-five, or whether they can feel the unseen work of countless angels encouraging, comforting and maybe even playfully amusing the children in their care, we don’t know. I like to think it’s the latter, which certainly makes the daily challenges easier to face.

The school shares the building with the Plymouth Seventh-day Adventist church, and both church and school have lived harmoniously together for the last eighty-three years. As I look back over the time I have worked here, the one constant has been the prayers of numerous people who have petitioned on behalf of the church and school, and the subsequent blessings we have received have been many. We have been able to develop the site in many ways, and currently the school occupies the basement area (Early Years and Key Stage One) and the first floor (Key Stage Two), with the church tucked snugly between the two, symbolically and literally at the heart of the school.

The one area of the building, however, that has avoided development for the many years that I have had my eyes on it, is the loft. Until recently, it has been the depository of countless pieces of equipment and other things that we convinced ourselves would one day prove to be useful – like the drawer we all have that is full to overflowing, in which it is impossible to find that useful thing we placed there for safe keeping.

Two planning permission was refused for various reasons, all of which seemed insurmountable in human terms, and then – when least expected – a chance meeting, and the intervention of heavenly agencies, and now we have our new multipurpose art/craft science/sound/sound presentation room, complete with toilets, shower and storage areas! The impossible seems to do on a daily basis; miracles just take a little longer! Our new space is making a significant difference to the running of the school, and is being put to good use by pupils and teachers alike; but our latest project, the Year 5 & 6 enterprise initiative, promises to be most exciting.

The children in those two year groups have been given the challenge of using the left facilities to establish their own business to earn money to help fund many charitable activities, as well as to help pay for their annual residential trip to Chapel Porth – and maybe even earn some pocket money as well. A personalised card-making group has been established, and their profits were recently added to the efforts of the rest of the school. Together they raised £833 in just over a week for our ‘Send a Cow’ harvest service appeal. The purchase of eighteen new laptops has enabled us to rearrange our computers so that each child in the upper school has his or her own individual computer for daily use, while the children in the lower school are making good use of our ever-increasing number of iPads.

God has significantly blessed us over the years, and His recent blessings are overwhelming. I am humbled to be part of His plan for Fletewod, and pray that I will never have the arrogance to get in His way.

Fletewod remains, to this day, really cool!

JOHN MARTIN, HEAD TEACHER

Contact details: Fletewod School, 686 North Road East, Plymouth, Devon. PL4 8AX, United Kingdom.
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Email: headteacher@fletewodschool.co.uk
in their last visit Ofsted inspectors recognised the outstanding care that the children at Dudley House School receive. It is interesting to note that visitors to the school comment on the warm, welcoming atmosphere, and a special ‘something’ that makes the school unique. We like to think that the special quality in the school is the presence of God’s Holy Spirit — because as the School motto says: ‘God is the Master of our school’.

The staff display a special love and care for the children, their parents and their families, as well as supporting each other. Last year a Muslim mother with two boys at school (aged 6 and 10) was diagnosed with an aggressive, life-threatening cancer. As she was about to start her radical chemotherapy treatment the head teacher told her that the staff and pupils would be praying for her recovery — along with the whole church too. She was touched by the kindness. During the dark days that followed, the two boys needed lots of reassurance. Sometimes the younger, Imran, would come and snuggle up against the teaching assistant. ‘Do you need a cuddle, Imran?’ she would ask. Then her lap was made available for as long as it was needed.

The concern of the other children was also a comfort to the boys. Sadly, the older 11-year-old brother, who has just moved from Dudley House School to the local grammar school, was left to face the fears of his mother’s illness alone. His mother commented on this in a note to the head teacher. She went on to say, ‘I truly know what it means to belong to the Dudley House School family and I can’t thank you enough.’

Dudley House School is trying to show to all, pupils, parents and staff; just what it is like to belong to God’s family. They have come to realise that it is a place where everybody is cared for, loved and valued. All the local church members’ children attend the school, and are joined by children from the local community who are happy to embrace its Christian ethos. The school has a reputation for academic excellence. Children who have been failing in other schools arrive totally disengaged. Gradually, however, they respond to gentle nurture and encouragement and become excited by their ability to achieve. The majority of children make excellent progress and achieve well above the national average, while even the lower achievers reach the national average. Although we are a small school we still take part in a variety of sporting tournaments and competitions. We are well-known as ‘good sporting ambassadors’. A master from a nearby village school commented, ‘It’s always a pleasure to come and play against you – no bad feelings.’ That says it all, for some teams have a reputation for ‘winning at all costs’. The school is actively involved in the community. The children raise funds for a variety of charities, both in the local community and overseas. They love to be involved with people, and have visited local nursing homes and the Grantham St Barnabas Hospice. The children’s choir is renowned for its excellence, and its members are involved on a regular basis as guest performers at the Grantham Choral Society’s Christmas Concert.

It is good to savour the successes of the school, but my heart rejoices when I hear children’s unprompted responses to the head teacher. She went on to say, ‘I truly know what it means to belong to the Dudley House School family and I can’t thank you enough.’

The school is very proud of its spiritual focus, and has worked hard to ensure that the children are taught about their faith in a way that helps them to understand and grow. The school celebrates twenty-five years since first opening its doors, it acknowledges that Jesus remains the Supreme Headmaster. With Him at the helm our success is assured.

Contact details:
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Email: headteacher@duleyhouseschool.co.uk

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I n September 2011, Harper Bell Seventh-day Adventist School (HBS) opened its doors to embrace more children from Adventist homes and the wider community. Having closed in July with approximately 117 pupils, we re-opened the new school with 220. At the time, some held the opinion that by converting to a voluntary aided school our Adventist ethos would be compromised. We have worked hard, however, to intentionally and systemically integrate faith and learning across the curriculum, inviting our pupils to consider God’s Word. It has not been easy, and competing values have challenged our Harper Bell ethos; but it continues to shine through.

HBS has fully incorporated the new Adventist Encounter Bible Curriculum, which creatively helps children to know and understand the Church’s fundamental beliefs through activities that challenge pupils to think purposefully about God. In Year 6 the topic of salvation, for example, is taught through the theme of an extreme maker. The first lesson saw the teacher dressed as a builder (wearing a hard hat and with hammer and design plans in hand) and the pupils were asked to think about how they could do a makeover of their classroom. This opening activity effectively illustrated the makeover our hearts need, described in 2 Corinthians 5:17 NKJV: ‘Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new!’ They taught the analogy immediately, and one of the new pupils was heard to remark, ‘This is a fantastic lesson; I love this school!’

New pupils, who are usually unsure about their new environment, have experienced something different at our school. They have quickly adapted to this vegetarian, praying, Bible-studying primary school and have grown to love it. For example, in September 2012, a child suffering from Thalassemia joined the school. His refusal to eat was firmly entrenched, and dinner-times were a battle-ground of tears and untouched food. His father, at his wits end, threatened to remove him from school if he continued to refuse to eat. However, as providence would have it, his favourite – fried dumplings – were on the menu the next day. The dumplings disappeared from his plate and he has eaten everything on his plate ever since.

There is now a permanent chaplain at the school, whose remit it is to teach the Bible classes, and to ensure that the Adventist ethos remains secure. The school’s spiritual focus has been an influence on adults too. A new long-term Christian supply teacher recently remarked to her father, a minister of another denomination, that this was the first time she ‘has had to produce school plans with her Bible in her hand’. She loves the school and wants to continue working with us.

Over the past four years, twenty pupils have been baptised, with many others continuing their Bible studies even after they leave. We believe the school has played its part in nurturing these tender seedlings.

Since becoming a voluntary aided school, news about us has spread throughout the wider Christian community of Birmingham. It has now become the popular choice school, with ministers from other denominations commonly praying for places for their children. The active PTA (current and past parents) continue to provide love and support. They have raised funds to ensure that all the classes have a projector and have helped to upgrade the library. The school is grateful to them and Terence Cole of ATIC, a social development group in Handsworth, who supplied the school with twenty PCs and a projector.

The future of Harper Bell School as a state-maintained school remains bright. As the school celebrates twenty-five years since first opening its doors, it acknowledges that Jesus remains the Supreme Headmaster. With Him at the helm our success is assured.

Contact details:
Harper Bell Seventh-day Adventist School, 29 Ravenhurst Street, Camp Hill, Birmingham, B16 4JN, United Kingdom.
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Email: info@hbschools.co.uk
John Loughborough School

Our guiding Bible principle: ‘That our sons may be as plants grown up in their youth; that our daughters may be as corner stones, polished after the similitude of a palace’ Psalm 144:12 (KJV)

Life at John Loughborough School (JLS) is a rich and rewarding one! For us, learning is about qualifications and much more – developing each person holistically for God – striving for spiritual, academic, physical and social excellence.

Our student body is diverse – from at least forty different countries, with 51% speaking a language other than English. They come from China, the Philippines, Brazil, Bulgaria, Romania, Poland, Portugal and Spain, and right here in the United Kingdom, Lithuania has a warm and welcoming environment which I did not expect a secondary school to have.

As a Lithuanian, England is different and bigger. When I first came to this school I was afraid, but on my first day I found a friend in my class and I started to have fun. This school has more technological solutions than Lithuania.’ Ailija (Year 7)

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What new students think . . .

JLS has a warm and welcoming environment which I did not expect a secondary school to have. I am pleased with the school and hope my feelings stay that way. I mostly enjoy Art, Science and Maths. I am also happy I chose this school because I don’t think I would have settled into another school so easily.’

‘I am from Lithuania. England is different and bigger. When I first came to this school I was afraid, but on my first day I found a friend in my class and I started to have fun. This school has more technological solutions than Lithuania.’ Ailija (Year 7)

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Learning at JLS

The school’s curriculum is broad and varied, supported by modern teaching techniques and equipment.

Key Stage 3 students study fifteen different subjects, covering English, Mathematics, Science, Modern Foreign Languages, the Humanities (including RS), the Expressive Arts, Technology and PSHCE (Personal, Social, Health, Citizen and Economic Education). At Key Stage 4, students study up to eleven GCSE subjects, with the top-performing students frequently from Seventh-day Adventist homes. Students with the ability and aptitude may sit their GCSE examinations one or two years earlier. This year, for example, several Year 9 and 10 students were entered for and successfully passed GCSE examinations with A – C grades.

Top ten Year 11 GCSE students 2011-12:
1: Eleven subjects (six A*, five A, one B).
2: Eleven subjects (five A*, five A, one B).
3: Eleven subjects (five A, five B, one C).
4: Eleven subjects (four A*, one A, four B and two C).
5: Ten subjects (two A*, four A, three B, one C).
6: Nine subjects (three A, four B, two C).
7: Nine subjects (three A, two B, four C).
8: Ten subjects (one A, four B, five C).
9: Nine subjects (five B, four C).
10: Eight subjects (two A, six B).

Contact details:
John Loughborough School, Holcombe Road, Tottenham, London, N17 9AD, United Kingdom.
Tel: 020 8808 7837; Fax: 020 8801 6719; Email: thesimilitude@johnloughborough.haringey.sch.uk

The Eden School

The Eden School is also negotiating the lease of new premises in Boston Manor, Ealing, which will include playing fields, a tennis court and a large one-storey building for public use.

The Eden School is a co-educational, warm, friendly and vibrant faith community where our students’ learning and creativity is nurtured through music, art, technology and the performing arts. Along with this their life skills are cultivated and honed, and their academic excellence is facilitated and celebrated. The school educates children from the age of 3 years to 18 years.

Founded on our Seventh-day Adventist Christian ethos – our motto is ‘Educating for Eternity’ – we teach our students of the love of Christ through our Bible curriculum and daily collective worship. We also emphasise our Adventist health message: the value of manual labour; and appreciation of the outdoors and a green environment; as well as love and respect for others in our community.

The Eden School has offered quality education for the past eighteen years is evidenced through its excellent results – academically, spiritually and socially – as seen in those who leave our school as ambassadors of Heaven.

The Eden Seventh-day Adventist School is based in the London Borough of Ealing and is in the process of applying for Free School Status for September 2014. The school will be submitting its application in January 2013 with a view to receiving Free School Status by April of that year. However, the Free School Status will begin officially in September of the following year; 2014. The school has been handpicked by the New Schools Network to be one of forty schools, out of the 400 applying to the DfE, to be given extra support from educational experts, and has received funding for marketing and branding the school through to Free School Status.

The school requests the help of all Seventh-day Adventist parents in West London and those within the Ealing area, who have children aged between 1 and 16 years, to sign our online survey. We wish to create a list of more than 1,000 signatures by December 2012 to show there is a need for this West London school. Sign our survey on our website – www.thedenSchool.com/page/survey.php – or request a hard copy via post.

The school plans to eventually offer more than 800 free school places, but will upscale slowly by beginning with places for twenty Reception children, twenty Year 7 children and ten students in Sixth Form in September 2014.

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Contact details:
Eden Independent School, Eastcote Lane North, Northolt, Middlesex, UB5 4HR, United Kingdom.
Tel: +44 (0) 208 423 7665
Email: info@thedenSchool.com

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Email: info@thedenSchool.com
**Pastor Ferguson moves on**

After twelve years in Grantham, Pastor John Ferguson is moving on to take up the position of Executive Secretary of the North England Conference, based in Nottingham. Ulster-born Pastor John Ferguson and his wife Zenia, along with their sons David and Martin, attended a function in celebration of his ministry on September 29, which was a bitter-sweet day for the Aberdeen church – the day when our shepherd, Pastor Lorance Johnson, bade farewell to the congregation. As the newly elected president of the North England Conference, this was his last Sabbath with us before transferring to Nottingham and his new role. The Sabbath afternoon was devoted to a time of singing, prayer and a message of thanks for Pastor Johnson, his wife Joan, and their children: Daren, Daniel and Rebecca. Though the Aberdeen members are saddened by his departure, we understand that God is working His purpose out in the lives of those who love and trust Him. We are sincerely praying that Pastor Johnson, one of God’s chosen instruments in this troubled world, will continue to hold up the banner for truth and integrity.

**Cheque to women’s refuge**

On 29 August, the Great Brickhill Music department handed a cheque for £150 to the Haven Women’s Refuge – a neighbourhood charity. A representative of the Haven accepted the cheque from Pastor Steve Palmer and Yvonne Holyoake. Yvonne’s team raised the money through a Gospel concert.

**Heath screening in Portsmouth’s high street**

The Port of Hope church-plant in Portsmouth, with the help of Portsmouth Church, organised a free community health screening at Commercial Road – Portsmouth’s high street – on 25 August from 10am to 2pm. A team of health professionals and other volunteers from the churches encouraged attendees to adopt a healthy lifestyle.

Community members who participated in the screening event also received health information and advice, and there was spiritual counselling for those interested. They were also offered a relaxing neck and back massage and a number of health-promoting freebies.

Several copies of the recent health edition of the FOCUS magazine and a variety of spiritual tracts and books were handed out. The attendees were very appreciative of the event, which they felt had increased their health awareness and motivated them to take charge of their health.

**Baptism at Ladywood Church**

On 20 October the Ladywood church used the baptismal pool of their new church for the first time. Ten precious souls were baptised as a result of a three-week evangelistic series conducted by Pastor S. Palmer and his members. The candidates are as follows (in no particular order): Rudina Roach, Jolina Irish, Khianna Harney, Tyrieck Buck, Joel Irish, Andrew Oliver, Dylan Porter, Ryan Anderson, Munashe Chipato and Jelaine Sampram.

**Rooms to rent in Hackney, London**

Adventist tenants sought to rent rooms suitable for a tidy working professional. Quality accommodation to share in the heart of Dalston, close to three stations and on a bus route. Contact Joan Russell of Hackney Church at joanrus@hotmail.co.uk for further details.

**Joy in Heaven, Portsmouth and Brazil!**

November 3 was a big day for three Brazilian ladies who were baptised at Portsmouth. Mother and daughter Andrea Freeman and Gabriela Santos, and Madailea Bettini, have been studying and they are eager to work for Jesus. This was also Pastor Robin Lewis’s last baptism as minister of Portsmouth before he leaves for another district.
Don’t just be a fan!

Oxford Church has held two special Teen days during 2012. The second was held on 29 September with Pastor Dejan Stojkovic as guest speaker.

His morning message encouraged the youth to be ‘followers’ of Christ, not just ‘fans’! While in the afternoon he urged them to look for the greatest hidden treasures in the Word of God.

Young people from the church shared their talents and helped plan the day.

Great Brickkiln Street hold health clinic

Great Brickkiln Street Church held its first health clinic on 8 April. This has been followed by a series of similar events run on alternating Sundays by the church’s Health Ministry team.

The events are aimed at both members and the wider community, and include various types of health checks and interesting talks.

DEVA CAMPBELL

The Goodloe School

Birmingham

The Goodloe School will be a secondary free school based on Seventh-Day Adventist principles and operating in the Birmingham area. Parents of children born between January 2003 and August 2005 (Years 4 and 5) are urged to contact us to help ‘make the dream a reality’.

Application deadline is 31 December, 2012.

Tel. 0121 340 9243 or 07860 033496

Email: info@goodloe.org.uk or goodloefreeschool@gmail.com

www.goodloe.org.uk

ChurchFest 2012

For two weeks in September our Lowestoft church joined some forty other churches in a ChurchFest which was intended to connect the church and the community.

The other denominations organised flower festivals, concerts, quiz nights, and so on, but the Adventists put on four ‘soup and rolls’ sessions and two vegetarian meals. A number of non-members attended and were duly impressed with the variety of dishes.

Some expressed interest in our beliefs – including a class of children from a local Catholic school, who also took away a selection of free literature. The events also raised £100 for ADRA.

ASI-UK convention (1-3 February 2013)

I should like to personally invite you to attend our next ASI-UK convention, which will once again be held at the popular Slaverton Park Conference Centre at Daventry, Northamptonshire, a fairly central location for those from the Midlands, the north, and the south.

Those who came along to this year’s convention were very impressed with excellent speakers and vibrant group discussions, and many who heard the reports from those who attended were sorry they missed the blessing. In February we will consider some more aspects of our faith in more detail – such as Creation and the Sabbath – and how they affect us, our young people, the church at large, and those with whom we come into contact.

Our conventions are not just about discussing important issues, but we thoroughly enjoy meeting old friends and making new ones, eating very well and having a great weekend break in very congenial surroundings. We have managed to obtain excellent rates again.

If you are interested in finding out more about ASI (Adventist Laymen’s Services and Industries) with a view to attending the 2013 Convention, please contact me to avoid disappointment.

JIM CUMMINGS, PRESIDENT
Bridgwater weekend
This event, which has become an annual one, was held at the Hill House Christian Centre near Bridgwater on the weekend of 19-21 October. Twenty-one members from Bristol, the south-west and Wales met for a weekend of fellowship and spiritual refreshing.

Guest speaker Pastor Alan Hodges, himself a Bristolian, was accompanied by his wife Thelma. He presented a series of stimulating devotionals during the weekend with a strong emphasis on the importance of our relationship with Jesus.

The weekend was ably organised by Tony and Christine King and Janet and John Overy. In addition to the spiritual blessings there was good food, good weather, much good conversation and laughter, and encouraging spiritual fellowship.

Sunday afternoon came around too quickly, but we left with our spirits raised, looking forward to the soon coming of Jesus.

RAY MOORIS, CHELTENHAM CHURCH

‘International’ wedding bells at Wimbledon
You can tell a church has a strong family atmosphere when its young people start forming new families. Pastors Sam Neves and Arthur Campbell have been kept busy lately. Further strengthening its incredible international flavour (more than fifty-five countries are represented among our members), Wimbledon has celebrated a number of ‘international’ weddings. In 2010 and 2011: the Ibrahim (UK/South Africa); Danons (France/Brazil); Radowich (Germany/Zimbabwe); Kulas (South Africa/Suriname); Flemings (both Jamaicans); Fraser (Jamaica/Mauritius); and Trampes (Germany/Mexico) – while this year we have celebrated the nuptials of (left to right above): Wilkaek and Mairo Krawiec (Poland/France); Johnny and Carmen Souch (UK/Hong Kong); and Errol and Kym Huet (Mauritius/Zimbabwe).

Wimbledon is truly a worldwide family of God in the heart of London.

ADAM IBRAHIM

Langley shares family’s joy
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ROHEET SUBRAI

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