PEACE, which stands for Practical Evangelism and Adventist Christian Education, is a training organisation located in the North England Conference. On 1 December they held their third annual graduation ceremony at the Preston Seventh-day Adventist church.

The twenty graduating students, from four continents, had undertaken practical evangelistic training in connection with the Southport church. This was done under the guidance of Pastor Adam Ramdin, Beulah Plunkett and Craig Gooden – the PEACE staff team – and a number of visiting specialist educators.

The course content and its impact on the graduands could be gathered from the respective comments of Hebada Olsenhe, Dr Judith Antwi and Dean Culliane: ‘One thing we all have in common: we want to reach others for Christ’; ‘We learned . . .’ and ‘We promised God to be true to Him’; and, ‘If you think PEACE is for you . . . I promise you will not regret it.’

Emmanuel Baek, an evangelist from Amazing Facts, was the keynote speaker for the graduation and challenged the audience with the question, ‘What do you want?’ – then assured them that it was worth everything to sacrifice all, if what we really want is to serve God!

Pastor Adam Ramdin opened the ceremony with the assertion that public evangelism works in 2012, and Craig Gooden provided facts to support the assertion. The students had completed more than 900 surveys, dropped off more than 500 Bible study booklets, and given forty-six in-home studies. Plans have been created to make sure that each of these contacts will be followed up.

Students from the class of 2012 will be heading off in many directions. Hebada wants to teach poetry, and confirmed that the course has enabled her life and plans. She will return to America. Ekaterina said, ‘Now I really know what to do . . . I have grown in personal confidence.’ Brazilian-born Dorling, who starred in the first of the PEACE promotional videos, was another graduate, who has moved on from the idea of doing a hairdressing course – and now desires to serve God in better ways. Dean Culliane will go on to be a Bible worker on the Isle of Man, while bright and bubbly Florence from Wellingborough will return to the north as another Taskforce Bible worker, this time to Southport.

Beulah Plunkett spoke of how this year’s PEACE graduates regarded the course as ‘character building’, and confessed her own enthusiasm for the course like this: ‘I can’t stop telling people they need to come to PEACE.’
Gender differences:  
- In men, 6.1% (9,600) of cancer cases were linked to a lack of fruit and vegetables, 4.9% (7,800) to occupation, 4.6% (7,300) to alcohol, 4.1% (6,500) to overweight and obesity, and 3.5% (5,300) to excessive sun exposure and sunbeds.  
- In women, 6.9% (10,800) were linked to overweight and obesity, 3.7% (5,800) to infections such as HPV (linked to cervical cancer), 3.6% (5,600) to excessive sun exposure and sunbeds, 3.4% (5,300) to a lack of fruit and vegetables, and 3.3% (5,100) to alcohol.  
- Tobacco – the biggest culprit – caused 23% of cases in men and 15.6% in women.

General findings:  
- Nearly half of cancers diagnosed in the UK each year – over 100,000 (34%) of the cancers were linked to smoking, diet, alcohol and excess weight.  
- About 100,000 (34%) of the cancers were linked to smoking, diet, alcohol and excess weight.  
- Almost a tenth of cancer risk was linked to overweight or obesity.  
- For stomach cancer, a fifth of the risk comes from having too much salt in the diet.  

The report concluded that healthy habits like exercise, good diet, and correct weight reduced cancer risks.
In the midst of this malaise of negative thinking is the Berean column – a place where the Lord has led us, and His teaching is most evident. It is a place where we can find comfort and strength, where we can remember that God cares about us. We can pack our ‘stuff’ – concerns, problems, and pressures – into the column, knowing that God will help us sort things out.

There are several reasons why Prayer in Tough Times is a valuable resource. It is written by Pastor Andrew Ramford-Hewitt, a pastor with extensive experience in dealing with difficult situations. The book is divided into four sections:

1. Prayer in Tough Times
2. How to Pray in Tough Times
3. The Power of Prayer
4. The Need for Prayer

Each section is packed with practical advice and examples of how to pray during difficult times. The book also includes a section on prayer in the workplace, which is particularly relevant for those who work in a challenging environment.

I highly recommend Prayer in Tough Times to anyone who is going through a difficult time. It is a book that will help you find hope and strength during even the darkest of days.
I guess you’re going to condemn us’

by Grenville Kent

I’m not every day an atheist and an agnostic ask a Christian pastor to pray at their wedding. When my friend Marcus asked me, I told him I would love to. He must have heard too much enthusiasm in my voice, because he added, ‘Don’t think I’ve become a believer. This is just in case you’re right.’ And so, at their happy occasion, I prayed for a crowd of secular people in one of the richest and least religious postal codes of Sydney. I gave God the credit for inventing love and sex, thanked Him for showing us love and ultimate giving on the cross, and asked him to bring joy to Marcus and Elle. A few people probably remembered from school that they were meant to say ‘Amen’. I looked forward to some interesting conversations. At the reception my wife, Carla, and I found our assigned table and were saying hello to others there already. Most were gay couples, plus a transgendered person (a fascinating conversationalist, as it turned out, and a brilliant academic). We were the odd people out, the happy little ‘hetero’ Christians.

We had not even sat down when one woman spoke her mind. I guess you’re going to condemn us, then?” Um . . . lovely weather. The entire table stopped and listened. Hadn’t planned on it, I said. ‘We just hoped to enjoy getting to know friends of our friends.’ ‘Oh, good,’ she fired back. ‘Because most of the Christians I know condemn us.’ ‘Do they?’ I asked. ‘Yes. And that’s ironic, seeing as it was a priest who abused me and probably turned me off men in the first place.

As I thought of all the human suffering behind those few words, I must admit that tears rolled quietly down my cheeks. Carla’s eyes were shining too. After a long moment of silence, I managed to say, ‘I’m so sorry. That may not mean anything at all to you, but I just feel like saying sorry.’ She said, ‘Thanks,’ very quietly, with her face softened. Everyone breathed again, and someone said, ‘So, how do you know the bride?’ Normal conversation flowed, but half an hour later she said, out of the blue, ‘You know, I miss Jesus.’ ‘Do you?’ I said. ‘What do you miss?’ ‘Well, out of all the characters of fiction or history, I think He’s the . . . richest. Not “richest” in a weak way – just the best. I nodded. ‘What do you like best?’ ‘The way that He could understand and be friends with screwed-up people. Then she laughed. “Like us.” Her partner wasn’t having that. ‘But don’t you find Him prettycondemning?’ And she fired the question at me. ‘Come on, Rev, doesn’t the Bible condemn the gay lifestyle?’ And she started quoting the King James Version in a voice like a Jehovah’s Witness feature testimony

Free photography workshop

The first of a new series of mini-video guides is now available to help you get your church on the map. ‘Successful picture publishing’ compiles the best of a full photography workshop into just 17 minutes.

The aim is to give you simple tips on how to take a good photograph and get it published, either in church news, BUC News, or your local church website – or, even better, in your local newspaper.

It’s actually quite straightforward to take a decent photo that people will want to look at,” states BUC Communication director, Pastor Victor Hubert. “I’ve been running these workshops across the country for over six years now, and without fail people tell me that it has given them confidence and new ideas.

One result of these workshops is increasingly better photos in the Mississippi. However, even with a team of trainers it is impossible to cover the whole country, so these simple tips are now online and available to every church member.

‘Successful picture publishing’ is the first of a series of training videos to roll out this spring. Other titles will cover areas of news writing, how to use social media, how to get your story published in your local newspaper, and how to increase the visibility of your church in the local community.

The idea of converting the live training workshops into a video setting is the brainchild of BUC new media producer, Kell Divi-Dawus. Why not view it yourself at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VPUPW0dPM.

 ska

TESTIMONY

Thank you for praying for my ‘boys’

by Maggie Robertson

I have many Christians with non-believing spouses, I have been praying for my husband’s conversion for many years. Peter and I have known each other almost twenty-five years, and I have been an Adventist for twelve of them. At first he disagreed with me at any mention of Creation, and would bring home food to eat that I considered unclean.

Then I started holding daylong in Port Ian with others from the Scottish Mission, and he felt he was missing something, so he came along. It took a while, but, after a class with Moya Rodd, our son Stephen asked his dad if he wanted to be ‘one of Jesus’ lambs’, and with a slight hesitation Peter replied, ‘I think I do.’ But he wasn’t ready for classes then; it took another few years till our eldest son, Thomas, asked Pastor Marcel Ghioalda at camp to arrange some Bible studies. So all three of my ‘boys’ have been taking lessons with Pastors Hatch, Herman and Bajic.

Gradually Peter started eating unclean foods; he agreed with me when the TV criticised Creation; and he stopped opening his shop on Sabbath.

Then, on Sabbath 10 November last year, I watched very proudly as my husband Peter and younger son Stephen were baptised by Pastor Clifford Herman. Pastors David Hatch and Bob Rodd also officiated at the service. Family and friends enjoyed the lunch and service; some had never been to a baptism before. Friends came from all over, including almost every Adventist church in Scotland. Thank you to all who have been praying with me for my boys.

Maggie, Peter and Stephen are members of the East Kilbride church in Scotland.

Corrigendum: The ABC Book Sales section in the last issue of Messenger (5 February, p. 2) should have advertised the book sale on 10 March at Coventry Central, rather than Coventry Market Green. We apologise for any confusion.

This article first appeared in the Adventist Review, 26 May, 2011.
2013 SEC BOOKING FORM
Please complete this Booking Form and send it directly to:
Pontin’s Ainsdale House, Shore Road, Ainsdale, Southport, PR8 2PZ
TEL: 08714 7427765

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*Please note: First named person must be over age 18. Special requests not guaranteed. Maximum persons in 2 bed/m Apartment is 6.

Address of First-Named on Booking Form:
Name: __________________________
Address: ________________________
Post Code: ______________________

Special Needs/Requirements Section:
Wheelchair Accessible apartment: [ ]
Ground Floor apartment: [ ]

Please note all requests will be dealt with on a first come first served basis.

** Offer Code: SDA1 **
Nh 15% admin charge applies to all card transactions.

Declaration:
I agree on behalf of all persons named above to abide by Pontin’s conditions. I accept the charges for accommodation and agree to pay the balance 15 days before the holiday date. By entering into a contract with you I understand that the details 1 provide will be used in booking and providing my chosen holiday. (PLEASE sign here)

Local Minister’s Signature: __________________________
Print Ministers Name: __________________________
Church Name: __________________________
Signed: __________________________
Date: __________________________
Hello Stars!
In 2013 we will discover more about Jesus – who He was and what He did. Also, why He is so special today to everyone.

At this time, come and meet Jesus the n g i k. Unscramble the letters to find this week's title for Jesus:

The composer, Handel, wrote a musical called 'Messiah'. In it he used words from the prophet Isaiah to describe what sort of King Jesus would become. Read Isaiah 9:6, 7. Write here the four other titles for Jesus:

When the wise men came looking for Jesus they were looking for a King. Did they find Him in a palace?  
☐ Yes ☐ No  (Tick the box.)
Where did they find Him? Read Matthew 2:1-12

Although the rulers of the temple, the Romans and King Herod had Jesus killed, that did not stop Him from being a King. A Bible prophecy in Revelation 19:6, 16 says: all in Heaven shout because Jesus will return to Earth as ‘King of Kings and Lord of Lords’.

To be ready for Jesus to return to Earth, take the time to read the Bible and pray every day. Learn the Bible prophecies and share them with your friends and family. Then they too can shout hallelujah when King Jesus arrives to make this a happy world again.

To enjoy learning more about the prophecies about Jesus, go to our Children’s Ministries Department website: www.adventist.org.uk. Look for the heading, Prophecies About Jesus.
Rebuilding
The “Walls”
17 - 23 June 2013
Pontins Prestatyn Sands Holiday Park - North Wales

BOOKING:
MEMBERS CAN BOOK VIA THE APPLICATION FORM OR ALTERNATIVELY CALL 08714 7427705 QUOTING “SDBAN” TO GET THE DISCOUNT. APPLICATION FORMS ARE AVAILABLE AT YOUR LOCAL CHURCH OR ALTERNATIVELY PLEASE VISIT WWW.NECAventist.ORG.UK - BOOKING COMMENCING 12PM ON SUNDAY, 20 JANUARY 2013. PONTINS PRESTATYN SANDS HOLIDAY PARK, CENTRAL BEACH, BARKBY AVENUE, PRESTATYN, DENBIGHSHIRE, NORTH WALES, LL19 7LA.

2013 NEC BOOKING FORM
Please complete this Booking Form and send it directly to:
Pontin’s Ainsdale House, Shore Road, Ainsdale, Southport, PR8 2PZ
TEL: 08714 7427765

Accommodation:

Booking ref: ___________________________ Holiday location: Prestatyn Sands
Arrival date: 17 June 2013
Departure date: 23 June 2013
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Address of First-Named on Booking Form:

Name: ___________________________ Home Tel: ___________________________
Street: ___________________________ Business Tel: ___________________________
Town: ___________________________ Email Address: ___________________________
County: ___________________________ Post Code: ___________________________

Special Needs/Requirements Section:
Wheelchair Accessible apartment: ___________________________
Ground Floor apartment: ___________________________

Please note all requests will be dealt with on a first come first served basis.

** OFFER CODE: SDBAN **
Nh. 1½% admin charge applies to all card transactions.

Declaration:
I agree on behalf of all persons named above to abide by Pontins’ conditions. I accept the charges for accommodation and agree to pay the balance 59 days before the holiday date. By entering into a contract with you I understand that the details I provide will be used in booking and providing my chosen holiday. (PLEASE sign here)

Church Name: ___________________________
Signed: ___________________________
Date: ___________________________

Advert and application form as supplied
Advent Shelter – a beacon of refuge in the community

During the chilly winter weather of December 2012, London Adventists did something unique for the city’s homeless.

By Sandra Golding and Elsie Staple

“We must do this again,” I am happy to know that the church is offering such a service. ‘An excellent event’ These were comments from volunteers at the Advent Shelter, which was run from 24 to 31 December 2012. Over this period the Advent Centre was turned into a place of safety and shelter – a haven for its guests, the rough sleepers and homelessness of London.

The Advent Shelter concept was sparked by a request from James Driscoll, who attended the feeding programme at the Advent Centre during the Olympic Games. Elsie Staple (SEC Health and Community Ministries director) and Malika Bediako (SEC Children’s & Women’s Ministries director) oversaw the management of the week-long project in conjunction with Westminster Council.

The project attracted more than sixty-three male and female guests, who enjoyed the Advent Shelter’s services: a movie room, a games room, access to computers, and a barber service and hairdressing salon, provided by volunteers from area 6B. They also had access to showers and hairdressing, and a choice of clothing and shoes, alongside breakfast, lunch and dinner. There were two health checks, which involved a prostate-specific antigen test, blood sugar and blood lipids, and one visit by a dentist. As a result, Dr NiKola will be commencing a monthly drop-in centre for the guests.

On Christmas Day the guests were treated to a special three-course Christmas dinner provided by Mention Gittens, a qualified chef, with twenty-one other volunteers from Luton, Ipswich and London. One of the volunteers was the Barbados Deputy High Commissioner, Donville Johnson. The team served more than sixty people. Special thanks go to all individuals and organisations who made the project a success. The SEC president, Pastor Sam Davis, attended on Christmas Day, and one of his comments was: “I was very impressed to see so many young people giving up Christmas Day to help make a difference to someone else.”

Photos: Sandra Golding

Feature

Stanborough Primary impresses business community

At the end of last year, Leavesden Business Park was filled with the sounds of Christmas as the Stanborough Primary School Choir performed in the atrium of their smart new office area.

The choir, under the leadership of Kathleen Hanson, gave a thirty-minute performance of traditional and lesser-known carols, all of which were enthusiastically received. The items featured soloists, three-part harmonies and some choreography. At the end of the performance, there were treats for the children and the opportunity to mingle.

The office staff told the children how impressed they were with the excellent singing and the outstanding behaviour. They had thoroughly enjoyed the performance, and some were even moved to tears.

The school felt privileged to have been asked to perform at the business park for the purpose of raising funds towards the Alzheimer’s Society. The links forged with these businesses promise to extend beyond Christmas, as office staff offered to take assemblies and give career talks at the school.

Connecting with the community proves to be a gift that keeps on giving, and is a blessing to all.

KATHERINE HASSARD, HEAD TEACHER

Stanborough School
Stanborough Park, Garston, Watford, WD2 5JT
Tel: 01923 67 3268

Head Teacher

Required for September 2013. Secondary School, International School and Boarding School – age range 11-18. Salary, plus an annual allowance of £3,440, will be up to £35,000, depending on experience and qualifications.

The British Union Conference wishes to appoint a permanent head teacher, who is imaginatively committed, possessing Seventh-day Adventist, to successfully lead the school into its next stage of development. This is a vocation to help provide a systematic education that forms spiritual and prepares young people to make a positive contribution to the society in which they live.

The STEM governors of the school are looking for someone who has: • A clear vision and commitment to the Seventh-day Adventist ethos and the school’s mission; • A strong personal faith; • Proven leadership skills and the ability to encourage innovation; • Experiences in raising standards through staff development; • The ability to manage the school’s budget and other financial planning issues; • Skills to foster the growing international demand for the school; • The vision and drive to successfully market the school among the local churches; • Effective communication and good inter-personal skills, so as to support and involve parents and staff, and work collaboratively with the British Union Executive, the governors and parent association; • The ability to build links with the community and manage the use of the school’s facilities; • Experience in the UK school system or evidence of the ability to adapt effectively to a new educational system; • The right to work in the UK.

Our school community offers: • A rich and diverse intake of students from the UK and abroad; • A friendly and motivated staff, committed to the school and its community; • Support from the governing body, local churches, and British Union Conference; • An exciting opportunity to shape the future of the school and own profile of Adventist education in the British Union.

Visits to the school are encouraged. For an appointment please contact Mrs Lorraine Dixon at Stanborough School on tel: 01923 671298.

For an application form, job description and person specification please email: apilmopool@adventist.org.uk

Closing date: Monday, 11 March 2013 at 12 noon

The British Union Conference of the Seventh-day Adventist Church is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people, and expects all staff to share this commitment. All applicants will be required to undertake an enhanced Criminal Records Check via the CRB before they can be appointed.

news
Tottenham Gospel Choir

“You guys were amazing!” “Your hard work has paid off!” These were just a few of the positive comments received following the Tottenham Gospel Choir’s second annual Gospel music concert, held on Saturday 22 December at John Loughborough School in Tottenham, London.

The choir, supported by artists such as Testify and Janine Thorpe, seized the opportunity to remind the crowd of almost 200 people (including non-Christians) that Christmas is really about Jesus. A collection was taken to support the choir’s work, and a portion of those proceeds was shared with ADRA. The choir also said a fond farewell to its assistant leader, Karlena Bucknor, who has now left London for a job in Warsaw, Poland.

One man who was not an Adventist explained that he had only heard about the concert on that very day, but was glad he came. He also expressed his desire to hear more from the choir by attending future events.

To see footage of the concert, go to: 

http://www.youtube.com/user/TGCworship

It took a miracle

God is still in the business of performing miracles. On 26 January 2013 He held back the heavy snowfall forecast for that evening, long enough for the ‘Little Lambs Clinic’ charity concert to go ahead. Performing artists such as God’s Project, First Call and Miranda Roberts, Collette Woodburn and Joshua 4 were present. Saxophonist Mark Bunneye was a roaring success, as well as the youngest performer, 6-year-old Neulson Clifford, who won the hearts of the audience with powerful singing. Other artists included 15-year-old violinist Okutan Aye and a live youth band. The charity, founded by student nurse Lovelle Edmeead of Bourneville Church, aims to provide free basic healthcare to children in developing countries. Held at the Christian Life Centre in Birmingham, the concert raised over £700 to help set up mobile clinics in countries where the families of sick children cannot afford basic medication. In the long term, the charity aims to help promote good oral hygiene and to help provide clean, safe water. It also aims to set up vacation Bible schools to run alongside the clinics as a way of introducing Christ into the lives of the children.

GBK hold family day

On 26 and 27 May last year the Great Brickkiln church held a family weekend packed with spiritual and temporal food, including special separate lectures for men and women, which were well received. The programme ended with a good family breakfast.

NEC PATHFINDER’S DEPARTMENT PRESENTS
APLA TRAINING
17 FEBRUARY | 14 APRIL | 12 MAY

Editor’s note:

This report was submitted to our office on 22 January—eight months after the event. From now on reports submitted this late will not be published.

Skye studies lead to baptism

The Seventh-day Adventist church at Legnano, Milan, was packed for the baptism of Celeste, teenage daughter of Stefano and Cathy Bertolini, on 27 October, 2012. Friends and family from the UK were present to witness her being baptised by her grandfather, part-time minister Anthony King, from Bristol.

Celeste had studied with her grandparents over the internet via Skype, and her brother Corrado is now doing the same. Celeste’s non-Seventh-day Adventist Italian grandparents also attended the service. Margherita Castilla, who was baptised with her, had studied with friends in the US, also via the internet.

Colchester welcomes new pastor

Colchester Church welcomed Andrew Davis as their new pastor on 5 January this year. Joining him in ministry are his wife, Natasha, and their ‘bubbly’ baby girl Leila Ann Sky Davis. Andrew is the son of Pastor Sam Davis, SEC president, and he ‘has a strong passion for ministry’.

White wilderness camp

On the last weekend of January ten brave souls ventured out into the white wilderness of the Peak District in search of adventure, ambition, and the Pathfinder winter camping honour.

The ‘expedition’ was led by Steve Bull from Grantham, assisted by Ron Lawrence. Pastor Husch, NEC Pathfinder director, had prayed for a minimum of six inches of snow, and you can imagine his delight when ten inches of the cold white stuff settled on Friday night.

After morning devotions the group climbed Win Hill, returning later that afternoon with all ‘expedition’ members present and correct – if a little cold. Reports from the expedition confirmed that two tents were damaged by the weight of the snow, while the gas stoves for cooking were running a little below par as their fuel had nearly frozen.

According to Pastor Husch, these little hardship experiences go a long way in developing personal growth and leadership abilities for those who serve in Pathfinder and Adventurer clubs across the Conference.

Everyone enjoyed the weekend, which will become a regular feature in the yearly calendar of the NEC. The group is planning to meet again in February and March in order to complete the six-night winter camping requirements for the Pathfinder honour.

Manor Pathfinders go camping

A wonderful weekend was had by the Pathfinders of Manor Church in Sheffield. Sixteen Pathfinders camped in the beautiful campsite at Birchover, Derbyshire, for a weekend of fun and fellowship under the leadership of Mrs Mariane Lee and her team.

Marriage of Pastor Douglas Sinclair and Sheila Bell

Having earlier exchanged vows in a legal ceremony, Doug and Sheila then chose to repeat them before God, witnessed by the congregation of family and friends assembled at the Grantham Seventh-day Adventist church, on 4 January 2013. The happy couple will be making their home in Crieff, Perthshire.
**Bill Brown**

Known to his friends, was born in Mansfield, Nottinghamshire on 7 June 1928. In 1946 he received a scholarship to attend the prestigious Brantum Grammar School, and it was here that he discovered his love for all things connected with science. An initial year at Sheffield University was not particularly successful, so Bill took up coal mining, though this career was cut short due to a severe coal-dust allergy. No longer employed as a miner, Bill found himself eligible for national service, based in Wrexham. Called Doreen Surridge, and, before Bill left for service. So at this time he was to be a husband and a soldier, and completed his Bachelor of Science degree in Chemistry (London University) and went on to work as a research chemist for Boots. A company he remained with for the rest of his working life.

In 1954, at the age of 47, Bill married Libby Jones, a laboratory technician he had met through his work at Boots. Bill and Libby lived in Gunthorpe, Nottinghamshire, for ten happy years, but in 1965 Libby died suddenly at their home due to complications with pneumonia. It took the support of Bill's close friends and a change in his work role to help him through this difficult time. Bill took the opportunity for early retirement and used his new leisure time to explore some of the things he loved. He was an excellent organist and played regularly at church functions all around the Nottingham area. He was also a lay preacher and occasional lecturer at Nottingham University on chemistry-related matters.

Josephine Selma Wade (1925-2012) d. 27 December. Selma was born into a Christian home, in Garston, Watford. Her parents became Seventh-day Adventists after attending evangelistic meetings at the Stanborough Park church. Her father worked for the church and erected houses in the Sheeporte Lane area.

Selma's education at Stanborough School, which was followed by work experience in a garage of Granose Food. Before too long Selma Herrington chose to go to work as a nursery worker and was graduated as a Bible worker and was assigned to assist evangelists, including the late George Vandeman, at the New Gallery Centre in London.

Selma's life was a service to others, the nature of which changed over the years. She was a nurse and was promoted to 'head nurse' at Hammermill Hospital. She later moved to the Bournemout area, where she worked at a district nurse.

In retirement, Selma lived in Worthing, caring for her elderly possessions and fearfully supporting the local church. It was here that she decided to have a new life, and fell in love with the church. She was involved in a number of years in Watford, where Horace worked at Granose and Jean supported the family using her dress design and millinery skills.

Jean and Horace retired to Cheltenham from Watford in the early '80s, and re-joined the church family. After the untimely loss of Horace, Jean became committed to voluntary work for many years. She was energetic in her support of church life, and continued with her talent for painting and drawing. Jean's funeral, led by Pastor Mick Smart and Paul Lockham, was attended by her two daughters, their partners, seven grandchildren, family, friends and many church members. Following her burial alongside Horace, we had the privilege to meet with the family to share some aspects of Jean's life and view some of the beautiful work that she had produced. She was a truly remarkable and talented lady. Jean was such a special member of our Cheltenham church family. It was a real privilege to have shared so much with her, and we will miss her greatly. We mourn her passing, but also celebrate her life and all that she did for the church. We look forward – when all is done – to meeting again with Jean in Christ for 13 years teaching the young people, working through a mountain of dirty church crockery; or just through the small touch of those flowers from her own garden that she placed at the front of the church each Sabbath morning. Jean was one of those people who exuded peace and tranquility, while at the same time remaining strong in faith and action. She knew her Bible inside out, and could always find a scriptural answer to support the things she believed. At Ingatherine time Jean was out there with a smile on her face and a spring in her step.

Mr and Mrs Pryce celebrated their 57th anniversary in 2011. Her funeral service took place at Stanborough Park church, and the interment in Vizurage Road Cemetery, Watford. Maureen is mourned by her husband, Gill Sexton, her brother, her grandchildren, her great-grandchildren and her large number of great-great-grandchildren.

Obituaries

**Bill and Doreen stayed in the Mansfield area for the next twenty years; although sadly, after being diagnosed with cancer, Doreen died at just 45 years of age.**

In 1975, at the age of 47, Bill married Libby Jones, a laboratory technician he had met through his work at Boots. Bill and Libby lived in Gunthorpe, Nottinghamshire, for ten happy years, but in 1965 Libby died suddenly at their home due to complications with pneumonia. It took the support of Bill's close friends and a change in his work role to help him through this difficult time. Bill took the opportunity for early retirement and used his new leisure time to explore some of the things he loved. He was an excellent organist and played regularly at church functions all around the Nottingham area. He was also a lay preacher and occasional lecturer at Nottingham University on chemistry-related matters.

Bill enjoyed bird-watching, painting and travelling, and these activities often combined as he went on trips — sometimes with a group of fellow enthusiasts — to Norfolk, Scotland and Devon.

One very special holiday break took him to Paington, where he met Doreen Surridge, a young and exceptionally able member who had recently returned from Australia. Ann was the cousin of Bill's first wife Doreen, and had actually been a bridesmaid at their wedding. The one-week holiday became an eleven-year seaside adventure as Bill and Ann found happiness together. Bill was 73 when they married and had spent five years they travelled annually to Australia to see Ann's children (which included Paul and Denise) and grandchildren. When travel became too difficult, Bill kept up his connection with these much-loved family members through email and Skype.

Bill died in the early hours of 2012. Some two years after being diagnosed with cancer. He is greatly missed by his wife, his children, his grandchildren, and as his brother-in-law Ron Surridge, his nephew and their son John.

During 2012 Stratford Church, London, celebrated two weddings and two wedding anniversaries as seen in these accompanying photographs.
Newbold rebranded
Newbold College has launched a refreshing new visual brand identity, complete with a new official name – Newbold College of Higher Education – embraced within a new logo and supported by a new strapline: ‘Life changing – faith affirming’. Newbold has also launched a new, more flexible website to complement this new identity.

According to Dr Philip Brown, principal: ‘Our revitalised identity will be rolled out across all of our communication tools and channels over the coming weeks. . . . We are passionate about energising the identity of Newbold with our church stakeholders and communities throughout Europe and beyond. “Newbold College of Higher Education” is the right name for us to embrace as a private higher-education provider in this country. Our new strapline articulates what our alumni and students repeatedly say captures the essence of their Newbold experience.’

Welcoming the identity revitalisation, Dr Bertil Wikander, Newbold Board of Governors chairman and Trans-European Division president, said: ‘We continue to need young people who have had the life-changing, faith-affirming experiences that Newbold affords to help make God known throughout Europe. We need Newbold College of Higher Education to help us in achieving the strategic plans of the SDA Church in Europe.’

During his opening assembly address, Dr Brown thanked students and staff for the 10% increase in total enrolments and the 45% increase in students living on campus achieved in 2012-13: ‘Our occupancy rates within the halls of residence are the highest for some years, and we are excited about the renewed interest that young people across Europe, and further afield, have in studying at Newbold this year.’

Newbold College of Higher Education attracts students from more than sixty countries. It is located in Bingley, Berkshire, United Kingdom. It offers programmes of study in Theology, Religion, Media Studies, English Literature, Business Studies, History, Music, Psychology, and English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL).

For more information, visit: www.newbold.ac.uk.