Life on the edge... 
by Bert Smit, CEO of ADRA-UK

People often ask me if I feel sad at seeing people living in extreme poverty overseas. Such feelings are an occupational hazard in my line of work, but I prepare mentally for my trips to ADRA projects abroad. I make sure that I am ready to expect the worst – poor living conditions; food scarcity; limited access to water; irregular or no power supply; with people suffering and barely surviving.

While ‘on the ground’ in such disadvantaged places I don’t stop to reflect on how people make do in these situations. How they manage to live; how they scrape together enough food to eat or collect water from questionable sources. But those powerful feelings of sadness at seeing many people living on the edge of existence always hit me when I return home.

The poverty and deprivation shock really hits me when I step off the plane at Heathrow airport. I feel it when the neon lights of our privileged existence welcome me back. It grips me when I see the shopping trolleys at ASDA or Tesco – filled to overflowing – and I am reminded about how self-indulgent our lives can easily become!

Yes, I feel that sadness when I go home to my comfortable clean home, with light at the flip of a switch, running water and anything else that I missed on my trip.

That’s when I realise how privileged we really are – and how sharing a little of my wealth, giving a little of my time to collect for ADRA, is not a big ask at all.

The funds collected through the ADRA Appeal over the years have gone to meet the desperate needs of people around the globe, in countries like Zimbabwe, South Sudan, Uganda, Nepal, Haiti and, most recently, the Philippines.

Just as Jesus cared for the poor of His day, so the funds of the ADRA Appeal have helped to provide food, water and clothing for the sick and the poor of ours. They have brought education, tools, skills, and hope for a brighter future to millions of people around the world. Just as Jesus came to set people free from dark prisons in the past, so the humanitarian programmes of the Adventist Church, through the work of ADRA, set people free from dark prisons of poverty and deprivation today.

The 29th of March marks the beginning of our 2014 ADRA Appeal. Please show your support this year by collecting door-to-door for this appeal, or by giving a generous donation of your own funds.

Visit our website to download the ‘Fundraising Powerkit’ for great fundraising ideas and contact us to find out how you might be able to volunteer your time and skills. Help us to help others.

‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.’

(Matthew 25:40, NIV)
On Sunday, 2 March, Russia firmly held on to the Crimea Peninsula. Reports indicated that 16,000 of its troops had crossed over the sovereignty of the Ukrainian soil, holding that part of the country's loyal troops hostage in their bases. On Monday, it was reported that “Russia’s Black Sea Fleet had given the Ukrainian forces in Crimea an ultimatum: surrender to Sam on Tuesday or face a military assault.” Some did, but not all those at the Belbek garrison, near Sevastopol. Just before reveille that morning, the commander, Colonel Yuli Mamchur, received word that the ultimatum still stood, but with the surrender deadline delayed to 4pm that afternoon. Faced to comply would lead directly to the severing of all ‘power and gas lines to the base’. Mamchur recognised the Russian tactics for what they were, “a mind game”. What they are trying to do is make us snap,” he told a Reuters reporter.

Then, without the approval of his superiors, he informed the Russians that his men were preparing to advance on the nearby airbase . . . and they did! With Mamchur at their head, around 300 troops, half of the Ukraine’s 204th Tactical Aviation Brigade, marched up the road towards the Russian checkpoint – unarmoured!

Russian snipers and machine-gunners were deployed at the road to deter their advance, but they marched on, singing the Ukrainian national anthem. “Ukraine’s glory hasn’t perished, nor her freedom. . . .”

Then, as the column neared the checkpoint, Mamchur ordered to stop, and when he refused, they began firing bursts into the air, one after another, screaming that they would shoot to kill.

One of the men was outside the checkpoint, Russian snipers and machine-gunners were deployed to the road to deter their advance, but they marched on, singing the Ukrainian national anthem. “Ukraine’s glory hasn’t perished, nor her freedom. . . .”

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Every Sunday, around 1 million people attend Church of England services. Another three of a quarter of an million attend other monthly services.

Some 3 million people participated in C of E services on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, and it has the largest following of any denomination in Britain. More than four in ten in England regard themselves as belonging to it while six in ten consider themselves Christian.

One in four primary schools and one in sixteen secondary schools in England are C of E schools – 4,700 of them – and they educate some 1 million children and youth.

At the end of 2009, the Church of England had 19,504 licensed ministers, clergy, and Church Army officers – more than double the number of members in the North England Conference! A figure which does not consider the number of people working for the church and army forces chaplains. And while we struggle for enrolment at Newbold College of further education, consider that the Church of England recommended 400 full-time clergy for ordination training in 2009, it has a figure consistently maintained since 2002.

And yet, despite all this, a former leader of the 85 million Anglicans worldwide, Archbishop Carey, stated in November last year that his church in the UK is one generation away from extinction!

One generation away from extinction!

He went on to say that the Church of England attracts fewer people every year, which poses a major threat to the future of Christianity.

Carey’s warning is one that we would do well to heed, because the Church of England is not the only religious institution facing a downturn.

For us to prosper in the British Isles, we must never forget who we are. We are salt and light when we are the culmination in character and conduct of all that Christ has said we are to be in the Beatitudes (Matthew 5:13-16).

It was not God’s purpose that people should be crowded into cities, because of statements like this by Ellen White:

Allied to this unbelief is an ignorance regarding the Bible, as referred to in the following words:

‘It was not God’s purpose that people should be crowded into cities, but in the days before modern refrigeration one of its greatest uses was as a preservative. Salt was used to stop or retard the process of decay in food. The drying and salting of food is one of the world’s oldest known preservation methods.

Salt must make contact

Salting in a cupboard rather than in the sun can be made effective in a few hours. A few minutes of exposure will be all that is needed.

Sail on sail of the city

We are called by Christ to be salt and light in our cities, to shine and to give light, to shine in the world.

You see, while we would do well to heed Carey’s warning we would do even better to understand and apply the words of our Saviour, who said, “You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled by men. You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to everyone in the city. In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.” (Matthew 5:13-16, NVI 1984.)

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Salt is a common substance – and yet, while salt, and light, might be taken for granted, we should cherish first this gift from Christ.

As the ancient historian Pliny wrote, “Nothing is more useful than salt or sunshine.”

In ancient times salt was a necessity, one of the most highly prized minerals. In many societies it was so highly valued that it was used for money. The English word ‘salary’ is derived from the Latin salarium, which refers to payments made to Roman soldiers with salt.

Historically, salt has had many uses, such as to enhance the flavour of food, but in the days before modern refrigeration one of its greatest uses was as a preservative. Salt was used to stop or retard the process of decay in food. The drying and salting of food is one of the world’s oldest known preservation methods.

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The 2013 Newbold Bible conference.
in English visit Warwick Castle.
A group of Newbold's summer school
... as the essential elements of living the Adventist Christian life. Pastor Jeremy Tremere added that he was really encouraged by seeing "local churches sharing their projects rather than someone from the GC telling us what the local church is supposed to be."

Naturally there were lectures. While the speakers came from opposite ends of the planet their themes nevertheless gelled into the salt and light theme. In a bold but unusual move, the British Union Communication director BUC Communication director Pastor Victor Hubbert, BUC Communication director

Board of Governors votes to Regenerate Newbold College
Dr Philip Brown
On 10 February 2014 the Newbold College of Higher Education Board of Governors voted to regenerate the college over the next 18 months. According to Dr Bertil Wiklander, TED president and board chair: "The regeneration model calls for an estimated increase of 100 full-time equivalent students over the next two academic years (2014/2015 and 2015/2016) with a further reduction in the total number of staff, operational costs and appropriations, but intentional staffing reallocation for growth and effective marketing and recruitment efforts are needed to achieve ambitious targets."

According to Dr Philip Brown, Newbold principal and board secretary, "A key initiative includes establishing a Centre for Christian Leadership with opportunities for BUC church members to participate in campus-based and field-based training in evangelism, mission, biblical studies, leadership, health and wellness and prophesying."

He added that "The college will be working closely with the BUC and SEC leadership teams to plan continuing professional development opportunities for pastors, elders and other ministry leaders as well as training programmes for lay members and young people who want to strengthen their skills to serve and support their Church in local mission and evangelism."

The one-year Licence in Theology for those who have already completed a degree in another discipline will still be offered, as will the options for third-year undergraduate Theology degrees and the postgraduate Theology programme.

The college is also looking to expand its partnerships with Union seminaries in Poland, Hungary, Croatia and Serbia, and to offer field-based Theology degrees in the Baltic region of Europe. A new model will be developed for the undergraduate Business programme at the college, allowing for an emphasis in Accounting as well as opportunity for students to complete the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA) professional accounting qualification.

A new model will also be developed for an expanded English for Speakers of Other Languages provision, which will afford opportunities for new immigrants within the local community to strengthen their English speaking and listening skills via evening classes.

A new development this summer will be the introduction of a Certificate in Health and Wellness on the Newbold campus during mid-July and early August. Modules include: Health Principles, Fit for Life, Nutrition, Personal Fitness Plan and Consumer Health.

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The eight 'salt and light' presentations certainly stimulated thought for Scottish Mission president, Pastor Bernie Holford. He stated, "A few weeks ago I had a chance to preach on the importance of sharing our beliefs. A couple of homeless men were invited to join the regular fellowship meal. I was struck by the question of one of the men: ‘What do you believe?’ ‘But, what do you do?’ My re-awakened focus in ministry will be visioning and facilitating the building of Jesus Community in Scotland, helping our ministers and members discover prayer, friendship-building and care for the needy, as some of the essential elements of living the Adventist Christian life."

Pastor Ian Sweeney, emphasised that he was not there to perform ‘the last rites’ on the Adventist Church in the UK and Ireland, but that rather, with all his ministerial colleagues, if language is the church’s currency in its mission to share the gospel, "We are there to be ‘salt and light’ – the Christ-given theme for the council."

The salt and light were shared in three different, emerging ways. These included two excellent overseas speakers, presentations that deeply caused the imagination of the entire workforce was a series of reports from various subgroups and groups that find themselves to be ‘salt and light’ in their communities. Feeding programmes, planting a community-based ministry in a small village, running a centre that reduced local crime by 40%, or even joining in with the community to find themselves studying the Book of Revelations with a group of nuns. All these reports then led to more sharing, ideas, and thoughts on how each local church, allowing for its own strengths and focus, can be a centre of excellence in its own community.

Those who presented the various projects found themselves surrounded by questioning pastors during breaks and through mealtimes. This was not just sitting through theory and lectures. There were practical ideas that could be taken home.

The light ‘salt and light’ presentations certainly stimulated thought for Australian: ‘Time – money – things – happiness’, Brendan clearly showed not only that this mantra fails, but that the antidote to it is community. The hyper-culture of desire generated by TV ads does not exist in reality, but building relationships with people, getting involved, relaying to be cross-generational, helps us from being empty consumerists seeking a new thrill, into being the caring, fulfilled individuals that God intended us to be."

Pastor Steve Palmer enjoyed the whole three days. The presentations from both men were refreshing and enlightening and very practical. "The pastor’s presentation on consumerism was an eye-opener. The Church needs to hear this message."

We could report on the exercise programmes, the late-night fellowship, the excellent worship teams, or the positive, good-natured leadership of Pastor Line Edwards, who spearheaded the event, but the most important thing to report is the very many ministers who said all along, ‘This is one of the best councils I have ever attended.’ This council is making me feel good about my Church.’ I can see new hope for the future of Adventism in the British Isles."

That is all that BUC president Pastor Ian Sweeney hoped for. On the final morning he smilingly stated, ‘It was my hope that our pastors could be energised, encouraged and instructed about their ministry as they lead their congregations to be community influencers and challangers as salt and light. I believe this has been accomplished."

A brand new year!

For many, the start of this new year has been horrendous, with storm surges and flooding affecting large parts of the country. I can only imagine what these people are going through. It’s good for us to appreciate the beauty of our world, but, at the same time, be aware of less savoury aspects.

The steady flow of pictures into my inbox seems to have diminished. I know the weather hasn’t been ideal for photography, but I am sure many of you still manage to get out with your cameras, or perhaps you have stock pictures. I would love you to send some in for Megapixels.

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

‘Then God saw everything that He had made, and indeed it was very good. So the evening and the morning were the sixth day.’

Genesis 1:31 (NKJV)
**Lewisham: a church of ‘signs’**

Lewisham Church enjoyed a wonderful service on 15 February, during which Pastor James Phillip baptised Glen Augustine, Breny Jimbo, Sharine Kudita and Monique Bell.

Glen, who was born on the island of St Lucia, lost his hearing after an accident at the age of 5. Fortunately, he has attended schools for the deaf in St Lucia and the USA, where he learned American Sign Language and got involved in ministering to the deaf for Christ in New York. He was able to use this experience to minister to people in St Lucia and other Caribbean islands.

He was later invited back to the USA, where he learned many new things: Bible truths, techniques for teaching the Bible and how to break down the English language into concepts that would be more readily understood by the deaf community. He preached and taught while he was there and people were baptised as a result of his preaching.

He returned home and continued to use what he had learned around the Caribbean with great success, but was then invited by a deaf man to go to the UK. Glen again agreed, and arrived in 1999, eager to join an Adventist church. There was a setback though: he was not able to find a Seventh-day Adventist church that offered British Sign Language interpretation for the deaf. He looked online but the only church he could find in his vicinity was a Baptist church; Metropolitan Tabernacle in London’s Elephant and Castle, which provided interpretation for the deaf at their services: so he attended there on Sundays.

He became aware that what they taught didn’t quite match up with his knowledge of the Bible and his Seventh-day Adventist background. However, the need to be in a church setting to hear God’s Word prompted him to continue, but several Baptist members questioned his being there as he still identified as a Seventh-day Adventist. He also felt that God was not happy with what he was doing, and prayed that God would help him to find an Adventist church that he could attend where there would be interpretation, and God answered his prayer.

He attended a party where he met a young lady who is an Adventist and attends the Lewisham church. She invited him to come to church and he agreed, but he was apprehensive as they didn’t have any way for him to understand what was being preached. God certainly didn’t disappoint! When he arrived at Lewisham he made contact with persons who had already learned British Sign Language (BSL), or who were interested in learning it, and he offered to help them learn some signs. In addition he started to make provision for deaf people who wanted to visit Lewisham; Bible studies; interpretation at services; teaching the members some basic signs and making them more aware of how to cater to the deaf in the church. It was difficult at first, but his enthusiasm and zeal soon spread, and his influence led to the establishment of a Deaf Ministry department at the church as well as the teaching of several classes introducing BSL.

What drives him forwards is his love for God and a desire to see the deaf reached for Christ: something that wasn’t attempted before at Lewisham. Bible studies; interpretation at services; teaching the members some basic signs and making them more aware of how to cater to the deaf in the church. It was difficult at first, but his enthusiasm and zeal soon spread, and his influence led to the establishment of a Deaf Ministry department at the church as well as the teaching of several classes introducing BSL.

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**Heaven ‘touches’ Rhyl**

On Sabbath, 1 February, Heaven touched the Rhyll church. This is the only way to describe the feeling of the congregation as Lee Holland was baptised.

Formerly a member of the British army, Lee now says he has ‘joined Christ’s army’ and has confirmed his desire to devote his life to the Lord.

Lee has been attending Rhyll Church for the last year. He is employed locally as a taxi driver and feels he is often able to share the love of Jesus with those who use his cab.

While his baptism was a big ‘first’ in Lee’s life, it was also a ‘first’ for Pastor Malcolm Turner, who conducted the baptism and had studied with Lee over the past months. Pastor Turner was recently appointed as a minister to serve the Welsh Mission.

As a result of Pastor Turner’s appeal, two men have requested Bible studies and hope to follow their friend Lee into baptism.

Rhyl Church was filled to capacity, including the owner of the taxi company that employs Lee. He and his wife were among those who came to support Lee on his special occasion. Please pray for the work of evangelism in North Wales.

PASTOR MALCOLM TURNER

**Baptisms at Luton Central**

There was joy at Luton Central on 11 January 2014 when Pastor Chakochen baptised three young people: Selitsemba Precious Ndlouv, McIntuhli Leonard Ndlovo and Bianca Chikunya. Selitsemba and McIntuhli are siblings, and their mother told the congregation how happy and grateful she was that her children have made their decision to follow Jesus.

Bianca Chikunya, the third candidate, was grateful her brother was there to support her and say a few words of gratitude.

PEGGY MORE

**New Life’s first baptisms**

The New Life Community church plant was established three-and-a-half years ago and last year they experienced their first baptisms. The first candidate, Pamela Phipps, was the neighbour of the church plant leader, Winsome Brown-Badges. She had attended the second anniversary service of the plant and became convinced of the need to join the Adventist church. The other candidate was Tracey-Anne Roach, who had visited their services and felt so loved and warmly welcomed that she couldn’t stop coming. Both women have since become very active church members.

**Aberdeen youth baptised**

On 25 January the Aberdeen congregation watched as four of their youths were baptised by Pastor Victor Harewood, assisted by Pastor Mildred King Ndlovu, the resident intern. Pastor Harewood had played a role in the spiritual formation of the youth during 2013 while caring for Aberdeen Church. The four are pictured above. Tahira, Ingia, Catriona and Thana.

JANICE SAVIZON

**Walsall’s special ‘homecoming’**

On Sabbath, 7 December 2013, the Walsall church held its annual Homecoming service, made more special because of the seven who were baptised that day – Harold and Lucian Smith, Ethlyn Johnson-Wilson, Dwane Mckay, Demarque Cocks and Phindile Tshuma. The sermon was preached by Pastor Adam Ramdin, while Pastor Richard Brooks conducted the baptism.

COMMUNICATION DEPARTMENT
Worcester’s first investiture

On 16 November last year Worcester Pathfinder Club held its first investiture programme since its formal organisation two years ago. Pastor Alan Hush (NEC Pathfinder director), four Area 5 co-ordinators (Loretta Mavis Griffin, Joseph Empawi, Mark Sinclair and Shirley Barneel) and an Area 6 co-ordinator (Coffie Harvey) were present in support of the club, as were Micah Campbell (their new pastor) and Edwin Vargas (the Pathfinder club director). They, along with all the club staff, were pleased with the success of the event.

The following candidates were invested: Elroi Vargas and John Baltazar (Ranger); Jehann Importante (Companion); Moses Baltazar, David Baltazar, Abram Vargas and Ira Guevarra (Friend); Tobias Jurkovsky (Little Lamb). Four of those invested came from non-member homes, for which the club is very grateful.

Bikers’ toy run

One Sunday in late November last year, 360 motorcycles roared into Grantham with 930 gifts of toys and sweets for the children of Grantham and district. The gifts were received on behalf of the town by the deputy mayor, Councillor Ian Selby, then transported to the Adventist church for sorting and distribution.

The cadets and staff of 47F Squadron ATC are regular volunteers at this annual event, along with councillors, their families and the mayor’s staff. This year they were joined by members of the Grantham Pathfinder Club.

ASNA news

The statement, ‘People with disabilities are at greater risk of abuse than those without disabilities’, was discussed in detail during the ASNA volunteer training seminar held on 2 February at the NEC. The statement was put to the church’s policy on protecting children and provided more in-depth discussions on protecting vulnerable people.

Photos of the event can be viewed on the Grantham pages of www.prayers4u-sdachurches.co.uk.

Twelve different organisations working with children in Grantham and district collected the toys and sweets, some visiting our church for the first time. Our local church co-ordinator concluded, ‘We feel honoured to be part of this exciting event and it has been great to see the faces of those collecting the gifts light up on seeing the mountain of toys.’

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Sutton-in-Ashfield makes health matters

Barbara, who has been a ‘Lollipop Lady’ for about 10 years, says that what she does is motivated by her Christian belief in the importance of road safety. "I want to be a voice for the children and parents of Leavesden Green who see me as a friendly and constant part of this community," she says. "It’s important that children and parents understand the importance of road safety, so I’m here to ensure that they leave safely and learn the benefits of road safety which they will hopefully carry with them into life.’

Lambourn Church held a very successful four-week seminar on health matters. On average, eight of the church members attended each session of the seminar, discussing various health-related topics such as the importance of a healthy diet, the benefits of regular exercise, and the importance of regular health check-ups.

Watson was assigned to the New Gallery Centre as part of evangelist Kenneth Lacey’s team. From there he went on to pastor for thirty-three years in both the South and North England Conferences, serving as the resident pastor in Weston Church. Both the committal and the service were conducted by the resident pastor, Wayne Eramus.

Watson was well-known in the community for his generosity and his devotion to his church family. His children fondly recall how he endeavoured to inspire in them a living faith by his regular family worship. He was a man of faith, who expressed a deep love and concern for his church family, with whom he prayed and wandered in his garden in the hope of inspiring them to grow in faith.

Lord David Watson Southcott (1936-2013) d. 13 January.

In 1974 the family returned to the United Kingdom and settled in Surrey, where he started working in London as a lawyer. He found work at the West Indies College Bakery, a Seventh-day Adventist institution, where he learnt to drive and met his future wife, Merdeline Stephens, while delivering bread. They went on to enjoy over 54 years of married life together.

Donald was born in the village of Green Pond, parish of Manchester, Jamaica; one of eight children and the youngest son of Elizabeth and Wilfred Daley. He endured a number of chronic health conditions in later life, and on more than one occasion he had cause to rejoice, recognising that God had prolonged his life.

In 1954 he went to Newbold College of Education, where he studied for a B.Ed. degree while working as a schoolteacher. He attended the local village church each week and was an active member of the church, serving in various capacities, including Sabbath School superintendent, teacher, deacon and treasurer.

The family would like to express their sincere thanks to all those who sent messages of condolence and attended the Thanksgiving Service. They would also like to thank all those who helped to make the service and the funeral as special as possible. They would like to thank all those who helped to make the service and the funeral as special as possible.

Watson felt the need of God’s power in his life. He felt a great kindred with Solomon, especially in the king’s early years, when he prayed, “So give your servant the discerning heart to govern your people and to distinguish between right and wrong” (1 Kings 3: 9, 11).

Now Watson rests from his labours and sorrows, and he knows that he is asleep in Jesus. His body may be buried, but his legacy remains.

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More than liberty, rights and respect
February Diversity Lecture by Dr Ganoune Diop
Newbold College of Higher Education, 11 February 2014

‘There are times when I sit across the table from people who I know are doing terrible things to others. Sometimes when I talk with people I know that they are lying to me. But I also know that we share the same humanity.’ These and other startling words came from Dr Ganoune Diop during the February Diversity Lecture at Newbold College of Higher Education.

Dr Diop is the United Nations Relations director for the global Seventh-day Adventist Church. He gave his lecture, ‘More than Liberty, Rights or Respect’ upon his return from Togo, West Africa, where he had been in talks at the highest levels of government concerning several imprisoned Adventist members. He was able to provide an update on the progress of the cases.

Dr Diop is a French citizen with roots in Senegal. ‘In Senegal,’ he said, ‘people do not shout. Anyone who shouts is thought to be a little mad.’ His gentle, gracious spirit made it clear to all present why he is ideally suited to this key ambassadorial role.

With the United Nations and many other agencies at work in trouble spots around the world, he asked why the Adventist Church should become involved in this diplomatic work. His answer was that Adventists believe that we are created in the image of God, therefore every human being, victim and perpetrator is sacred and deserves to be treated with the greatest dignity. ‘Things change when you treat people as if they matter,’ he continued. ‘People need to know that I am for them. Within the Church and beyond we need to create a culture of human dignity.’

Part of the problem, he said, was that we really do not know or understand each other. ‘As Adventists we are here to heal misunderstandings. I tell government leaders that they should regard Adventists as assets to their society.’ He emphasised his view that Adventist pastors and members should maintain connections with a variety of local organisations. He cited Ellen White (Thoughts from the Mount of Blessing, p. 45) to underline the point: ‘Christ . . . abolishes all territorial lines.’

He was clear that human beings cannot solve their problems in any final way. ‘A new conflict starts somewhere in the world every month. Human beings have a very ugly side.’ He continued, ‘But ... even if I believed that the world was going to end tomorrow, I would still plant a tree today.’

‘As Adventists we should go beyond giving people rights and treat them with great dignity. We should go beyond showing them respect and treat them with great generosity.’ Dr Diop, who comes from a Muslim background, became an Adventist because he saw it as a way of becoming free. ‘We must offer that opportunity for personal freedom to people we meet in our everyday lives simply because we share a common humanity.’

DR MICHAEL PEARSON, THEOLOGY LECTURER AT NEWBOLD

A personal plea for ADRA
‘Let us do the Lord’s work while we can,’ says Hubert Smiley, a former Ingathering champion, now incapacitated by a blood clot in the leg. ‘I can no longer collect thousands, only hundreds, but someone can eat with the money you collect. Go out with the best of heart, and God’s blessing be with you.’

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Sheffield Manor joint carol service
Our carol service on 14 December was a special one as members of St Swithuns Church of England joined us for the second year running. Pastor Victor Marshall, our minister, was joined by the Reverend Julie Upton, vicar of St Swithuns, whose closing remarks reminded us of God’s presence in all aspects of our lives.

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